

# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 1669.

LONDON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1859.

PRIOR  
FOURPENNE  
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## KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.— EVENING CLASSES, 1859-60.

The following CLASSES will be OPENED on MONDAY, Oct. 24—  
Divinity—Rev. Prof. Plumptre, M.A.  
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English Language, &c.—Henry Morley, Esq. A.K.C.  
History and Geography of England—Decimus Sturgis, Esq. B.A.; and William Hughes, Esq. P.R.S.  
Mathematics—Rev. T. A. Cook, M.A.; and G. R. Smalley, Esq. B.A.  
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The poll will commence at Twelve o'clock and close at Two precisely. Persons becoming subscribers may vote immediately.

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At the ANNUAL MEETING which will occur in April next, the Board propose to RECOMMEND to the Subscribers a VARIATION of the FIFTH RULE, so as to allow of RECEIVING CASES FOR LIFE. If this shall be, as they hope, approved, the POLLS will be OPENED at that Election to TAKE FIVE CASES FOR LIFE, in addition to the ordinary cases. It must be understood that this privilege will be limited to those who have had a full election of five years. They have reason to know that this privilege will be highly acceptable to many of the best friends of the Charity, and they doubt not that they shall have proportionate support, if called on to take up increasing responsibilities.

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THE CHEMICAL LABORATORY of the UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH will RE-OPEN on the 1st of NOVEMBER, under the immediate superintendence of the Professor of Chemistry, Dr. J. W. H. Playfair, C.E., aided by Dr. Guthrie and Dr. Wanklyn.  
The Hope Prize, of the annual value of 50l., will be awarded by the Senate for Original Investigations made by Students.

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## MR. KIDD AT WINCHESTER AND SOUTHAMPTON.

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Hammersmith, Oct. 22.

## "NOTICE" TO THE LOVERS OF BIRDS, ETC.

MR. KIDD and the CRYSTAL PALACE "BIRD-SHOW."—Mr. Kidd wishes to make it generally known, that he is, this year, TOTALLY UNCONNECTED with the announced "SHOW OF CANARIES," &c., at the Crystal Palace, Sydenham. His POPULAR "GOSSIPS" on "BIRDS, BIRD-TAMING," &c., will—by special desire—be given at the SOUTHAMPTON GRAND PRIZE BIRD-SHOW, on DECEMBER 6 and 7. Hammersmith, Oct. 22.

"The main! the main! In Britain's reign, Her pride, her glory is her fleet."—Young.

MR. C. PICKERING is prepared to receive applications for ENGAGEMENTS for his LECTURE on the Screw Fleets of England and France in 1859-60, illustrated by Drafts and Diagrams of the most approved Model Ships of both Fleets, taken by himself at Sea and in Harbour.

Since its delivery at the United Service Institution and the Crystal Palace, this Lecture has been entirely re-written, and further illustrated by Drafts of the New Ships at present on the stocks, including the large Iron Frigate.  
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"Some account was given in this paper, a few weeks since, of a very able Lecturer, whose name was delivered before the members of the United Service Institution, 'On the Screw Fleets of England and France,' by C. L. Pickering, Esq., Member of the Society of Arts, who received the marked attention and applause of a distinguished auditory." A before stated, Mr. Pickering has enjoyed peculiar facilities for acquiring authentic information upon the vexed question of the actual condition of the French Navy, its architecture, sailing qualities, gunnery, and, in short, every detail connected therewith; and an intelligent comparison is made of the whole, with the corresponding data of the British Royal Navy. This important subject is copiously illustrated by a number of beautiful diagrams, executed by the Lecturer himself, including, we believe, every variety of gun in the British service, and drawn at the actual size. The diagrams of some of the principal ships of war, too, of both the English and French Navies, are most attractive objects in the room, from their great size and the careful and artistic finish which the Lecturer has bestowed upon their execution. Conspicuous among these is the gladius, the flag, and the section of the Marlborough, the original drawing of the well-known print, and probably the most elaborate drawing of a ship hitherto produced either in England or France. By these may be traced the progressive development in the size of ships of war, the advantages of which are pointed out by the Lecturer. It should be added that the Lecturer is entirely directed of technical details, and the subject is, by a lucid and popular treatment, rendered peculiarly attractive and instructive to those even the least initiated in the details of naval matters."—Morning Chronicle.

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SCHILLERFEST.—Am 10 November soll der HUNDERT-JÄHRIGE GEBURTSTAG SCHILLER'S im CRYSTAL PALAST auf würdige Weise gefeiert werden. Zur Ausföhrung dieses patriotischen Zweckes hat sich ein Comité gebildet, das jeden Deutschen in London hiermit einladet, sich demselben zur Mitwirkung anzuschliessen.—Namen und Adressen sind an das Comité des Schillerfestes, Seyd's Hotel, 30, Finsbury-square, E.C., zu richten.

## SCHILLER FESTIVAL.—CRYSTAL PALACE.

—THURSDAY, the 10th of November next, being the Hundredth Anniversary of the Birthday of the great German Poet Schiller, it is intended to celebrate the occasion by a FESTIVAL in the Crystal Palace, on a scale and in a manner worthy of the Event.  
The idea has originated with a Committee of German gentlemen resident in London, who have opened communications with the Directors of the Crystal Palace.  
The Programme will be duly announced.  
GEO. GROVE, Secretary.  
Crystal Palace, Oct. 19, 1859.

## SCHILLER FESTIVAL.—CRYSTAL PALACE.

—Several distinguished Artists have already volunteered their services, and all Artists, both German and Foreign, are invited to give their co-operation on this interesting occasion.—All communications on the subject of the Festival should be addressed to the Committee of the Schiller Festival, Seyd's Hotel, 30, Finsbury-square, E.C.

## EDUCATION in FRANCE.—CALAIS.

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## LITERATURE

*The Life and Times of Samuel Crompton.* By Gilbert J. French. (Simpkin & Marshall.)

THE 3rd of December 1753 was rather a notable day in our social history. In the morning seven felons were hanged at Tyburn; in the evening a prize of 10,000*l.* was drawn in the State lottery; while at some unchronicled hour in the day, in a farm-house at Firwood, near Bolton, Betty Holt, the wife of one George Crompton, farmer, carder and spinner, brought her only son into the world. The twelve months immediately preceding and following that apparently insignificant birth were rich in social events. The Society of Arts was founded; the British Museum established; the Society of Antiquaries was incorporated by royal charter; the New Style was definitively arranged; Benjamin Franklin discovered natural electricity, and Clive began the conquest of India. But of all these events the birth of that poor farmer's son was destined to be of the most importance to mankind.

The Bolton of that day was very different from the Bolton of the present day. No tall chimneys or giant manufactories darkened the air or blackened its waters then; but long green bleaching meadows sloping down to the Crol—as yet a pure stream with trout and grayling in its quiet pools, and marsh marigolds and water violets on its banks, left quite a rural beauty fresh upon the land. In every house stood the old-fashioned spinning or carding machine; and every man was a small manufacturer in his own right. Belfast sent the linen and cotton yarn, which the Bolton men and women wove into the calicoes and muslins, fustians, herring-bones, crossovers, quiltings and dimities that were sent to market every Monday in wallets flung over the shoulder and balanced by baskets of eggs and butter, for the small manufacturer was most frequently a farmer as well, and spent the evening at his weaving when it had got too dark for hoeing or ploughing in the fields. The cotton goods then sent were just rough from the loom, and invariably unbleached; and the rugged Bolton men generally pitched their goods carelessly into the open street or piled them up under rude piazzas in front of the shops. There were warehouses and market-halls as well, but the open-air bargaining belonged to the time. The buyers arranged all about the bleaching, which was, however, always given to the Bolton men to do; and whosoever owned one of those long green crofts stretching to the Crol was pretty sure of plenty of work in bleaching and dyeing. Times have changed since then; since every man, no matter what his trade, worked at the weaving loom as well, and every field blossomed out into a bleaching-ground; since merchants travelled on horseback with pistols at their holsters and highwaymen ever before their eyes, and the manufacturers trudged ankle deep through mire on foot, with their goods strung up in wallets on their backs; and since men knew so little of the laws of health, and money was so scant of circulation, that one cow a week was the average slaughtering for the five thousand and odd hundred inhabitants of Bolton. Now, machinery has taken the place of men, yet more men are employed; manufacture and capital have centralized themselves into a few colossal centres, yet there is a wider flow of wealth and a farwider flow of luxury and comfort; and where a few Boltonians feasted on that one hebdomadad cow, eighty or a hundred fat oxen scarcely satisfy the weekly appe-

tites of the present generation. And all this change has been mainly brought about by that "wee bit ween" lying in its cot in the house of George Crompton, farmer, at Firwood.

The Cromptons were down-gone people, of good origin; the "clan" tracing back as far as Henry the Third, and declared by the College of Heralds entitled to use armorial bearings at the Visitation of Dugdale in 1664. But at present they were nothing but poor farmers, to whom it was hard work enough to get their daily bread without stint or debt, and who were content to live as tenants on the estate which for many generations they had held as landlords. But worse days were in store for them; for when Samuel was but five years old the father died, and poor, rough, honest, passionate Betty Holt was left with her three children to struggle with the world as she best could. And she did her best, and that bravely; kept on the farming and the carding and spinning as in her husband's lifetime; was made overseer of the poor, which brought her in a few yearly pence as per-centage; gave her son the most liberal education open to her; took care that her butter got a top price at market; that her elderberry wine was first-rate, and her honey unsurpassed; and so, by her industry, cleverness, strength of character, austerity of virtue, and true Northern pride, acquired a certain influence among her neighbours, which was no bad introduction for her son when he came to play his part in the important world of Bolton. Between love to-day and a hearty thrashing to-morrow, young Samuel grew up to man's estate; and we first find him, at the age of sixteen, living with his mother and his lame, pious, orderly uncle Alexander, at the fine old mansion called Hall-in-the-Wood. His life there was strict. All day he worked steadily at his loom, and in the evening went to learn algebra and mathematics at the night-school at Bolton; stealing moments in between whiles for sundry scrapings on the fiddle, which proved in after-life one of the greatest blessings and comforts he possessed. About this time a great demand had arisen for fine muslins, in imitation of the India muslins which had suddenly become fashionable, but which were both too scarce and dear for general use. Weavers everywhere were doing their best to produce these muslins; but were stopped as much by the want of good yarn as by their own incapacity or the clumsiness of their machinery. To remedy this "state of starvation for yarn"—for the weavers had to go about collecting it in ounces or half-ounces from the cottages, or remain idle half their time—Hargreaves, one of the martyrs of scientific industry, invented the jenny in 1767; "and two years afterwards, when only sixteen years of age, Samuel Crompton spun on one of these machines, with eight spindles, the yarn which he afterwards wove into quilting."

The grand old Hall-in-the-Wood was a favourable place for thinking. River, wood, and rock without; within, large old darkened rooms, quaintly decorated with "post and plaster-work," and dimly lighted by latticed windows, which were once of curiously stained glass; the stern mother, grimly abhorrent of even innocent pleasure, and carrying out her idea of conscientious work into a very fanaticism of religion; the crippled uncle, with his austere piety, his patience, and his clear intellect; music as his solace, learning as his pride, solitude, beauty and faith—there was enough here to develop any poetry or genius the youth might have. And he had both; yet for all that his great invention was a simply utilitarian machine, and his name connected only with manufactures

and mechanics. His thinking came to good end. In 1774, when twenty-one years old, he began his first essay in a new spinning-machine, which at the first was called "Hall-i'-th'-Wood Wheel," or "Muslin Wheel," but finally grew into public estimation and public adoption, under the name of the "Mule," "from its partaking of the two leading features of Mr. Arkwright's machine and Hargreave's spinning-jenny." It took him five years, and every sixpence he had, to perfect his idea, working as he did alone, without help of sympathy or aid of any kind; and only able to work far into the night, when his regular day's weaving was over. This night labour, the odd sounds heard in that large upper room of his, and the untimely lights seen glimmering through the casements at uncanny hours, got the Hall the reputation of being haunted; but when it was discovered that it was none other than young Samuel, who was "fashioning himself over bits of wood and iron," the rumour changed, and he was soon pointed at as a "conjurer": "conjurer" being the cant term of the time for any man who gave his time to new inventions. And conjurers were not often popular with the workmen, as the lives of Kay and Hargreaves are sufficient to prove. Perseverance, a long head, a clear eye, a clasp-knife, brought things to a happy conclusion. In the mean time, when his funds were utterly exhausted, he hired out himself and his violin to the orchestra of the Bolton Theatre, and by the munificent remuneration of eighteen-pence a night was enabled to procure such tools as he wanted for his new work in mechanics; till, at last, the labour and energy of five years was crowned with success, and the "mule," with the spindle-carriage, which was "the corner-stone of the invention," was complete, and fairly at work. Thus, the art of spinning had gone on receiving progressive improvements; first, by the fly-shuttle made by Kay, of Bury, who got mobbed out of the country for his invention, and finally died abroad in poverty and obscurity; then by the rollers patented by Paul, but really discovered by Wyatt; next by Arkwright's skill in adopting and adapting, and improving on the schemes and inventions of others—for Arkwright, the coarse, clever, energetic Bolton barber, was no originator, he was only a successful adapter; then by the spinning-jenny of poor Hargreaves; and now by Crompton's mule.

Machinery riots were breaking out at Blackburn, and seemed likely to spread. Every spinning-jenny for miles round was destroyed; Hargreaves himself was forced to beat a precipitate retreat; and the senseless cry of "Men, not machines!" was vainly raised to stop the current of improvements setting in. Terrified at the storm, Crompton took his new machine to pieces, and hid it in a garret near the big clock in the old Hall. After a time he brought it out again, refitted the pieces together, and spun his first "Hall-i'-th'-Wood-Wheel" muslin threads. He bought a silver watch, married a wife, and spun finer threads than any else could do; and dreamed of fame and wealth, a grateful country, admiring friends, and the universal adoption of his machine. Some part of his dream came true; the rest faded away into the dull grey of disappointment and regret. Crompton's fine muslin threads attracted attention. It was known that he had at last conjured up a machine that did more than other people's were able to do; and soon orders crowded on him to such an extent that he could not fulfil them. Then the Hall-in-the-Wood was besieged by men hoping to gain a sight of the new wheel; and, when denied the house, they

climbed up ladders to the windows, one even concealing himself for some days in the cock-loft, where he watched Samuel at work, through a gimlet-hole pierced through the ceiling. Then came Arkwright himself, with his quick eyes, ready wit, retentive memory, and apt powers: and poor Crompton was in despair. Feeling the impossibility of preserving a secret "which every one could carry away with his eyes," he resolved to throw it open to the public—but not unconditionally. He counted on a large subscription, according to an agreement drawn up between him and some of the principal men of Manchester and Bolton; but he did not clear 60*l.* and lost for ever the right of making a fortune of his invention. A private letter gives us the following information, which we throw in as some addition to the mass of notes afforded by Mr. French:—

"When he found that he could no longer preserve his secret," says this letter, "he went to Mr. Pilkington, and consulted him what he should do. Mr. Pilkington was permitted in confidence to see the machine, and it is clear from the nature of the agreement that others than he must have been permitted to do so likewise—probably at Mr. Pilkington's request, to enable him to advise. Among them was Robert Peel, the father of the eminent statesman, who brought with him two mechanics, who knelt down, examined, and measured the machine, and mastered its construction. Peel, and the firm to which he belonged (then in the height of its prosperity) subscribed *one guinea collectively*; and when Sir Robert took away the plans of the machine, he offered Crompton sixpence a piece for the two workmen's examination and measurements."

As soon as Peel and his mechanics had mastered the construction, he made mules in his own factory, and entered into competition with the inventor; and Crompton said afterwards, indignantly, to Mr. Ashworth—"If Peel, or any of his men had taken away a rail or any portion of my machine it would have been a theft, and I cannot but feel that Peel, when he thus came with his workmen and carried away the product of my brain, was a thief too." This pendant to the anecdotes of the bribe and the two sixpences is omitted by Mr. French; but it is too honest and outspoken a burst of indignation to be buried. In justice, though, it must be told that Peel offered first a place of trust in his establishment, and then a partnership, to Crompton; but, actuated by the sensitive pride and love of independence characteristic of him, he refused both, and thus lost the only chance that ever presented itself of building up his fortunes by the aid of a clear and practical man of business. That was the tide which he neglected to take at the flood, and the opportunity never occurred again.

When the time for calling in the subscriptions came round, many who had put down their names for so much in the agreement refused to pay. The firm of Peel, Yates & Co., of Bury, certainly gave their single guinea honourably enough (the firm of Peel, Ainsworth & Co., of Bolton, did not subscribe at all); and when everything was gathered in, expenses deducted, and loss of time accounted for, Crompton found himself possessed of less than 60*l.*—"Just so much money as built him a new machine with only four spindles more than the one he had given up." So much for inventors and their gains!

Crompton's original machine got improved on in various small ways. Metal for wood, here and there better finishing and better workmanship, made a handier and more available creation of it; but the underlying idea, the basis, the principle, was always the same. Even in 1824-6, when visiting Mr. Ashworth's factory, Crompton, after carefully examining

the mules, exclaimed: "There does not exist any motor here that did not exist when I gave up the mule to the public." So that they had not been able to make any really vital improvements in the old man's first invention: though they tried hard to deprive him of both profit and honour in the use. Crompton felt the injustice done him so keenly, that one day he seized his axe and broke his carding machine to pieces, saying bitterly: "They shall not have this too!" Every one succeeded with his machine better than himself. David Dale, of Lanark, turned the mules with water, and increased their power immensely; Sir Richard Arkwright used them in his manufactories and doubled his wealth, at his death leaving a colossal fortune to his children; Peel's prosperity culminated in its perfected fullness; but Samuel Crompton, the inventor of that which had helped to make all these men, lived at Oldham in comparative poverty, toiling hard for his living and getting no reward from any one. Years of this ungrateful kind of life went on, and with no better result. We have seen how the original subscription list, when he gave up his invention, disappointed his expectations, and every other attempt to gain a just recognition failed in the same manner. But the thing which hurt him the most was, the non-success of his application to Sir Joseph Banks. He wrote to him as President of the Society of Arts; but Sir Joseph was President of the Royal Society, and Crompton's letter to him failed to produce any good results. But Crompton's sensitive pride took offence at an imagined discourtesy, and his mistake only added another weight to the burden already on him.

Yet the country owed him much, and every day owes him still more. In 1811 above 4,600,000 mule spindles made by his pattern were in use; and, in 1812, when Government assigned him 5,000*l.* as a national reward, the duty paid by cotton imported to be spun on his machines came to over 1,000*l.* a working day. At the present time it is calculated that if every mule spindle now working were to subscribe one shilling each, a sum of 1,600,000*l.* could be realized. In France alone there were in 1850 about 3,000,000 spindles on Crompton's principle; and one firm of mule makers (Hibbert, Platt & Company) make mules at the rate of 500,000 spindles a year. The immense impetus given to trade, money, civilization, and comfort by this invention is almost incalculable. Mr. Bright said the other day, "We should relapse into barbarism if Crompton's spindle carriage were taken away." And it has been also said, that he contributed as much as Wellington to the downfall of Napoleon. Yet this was the man to whom the nation decreed a reward of 5,000*l.*; or, in the insolently graphic language of an Honourable Member, resolved to "give the man 100*l.* a year—it is as much as he can drink."

In this matter of the award of 5,000*l.* Crompton's ill luck again pursued him. He came to London to urge his claims, and had so far succeeded, that Mr. Perceval came up to where he stood in the lobby of the House, talking to Sir Robert Peel and Mr. Blackburne, saying,—"We mean to propose 20,000*l.* for Crompton; do you think he will be satisfied?" Crompton walked shyly away: not to hear the reply; and a moment after Bellingham passed, and Perceval was shot. When Lord Stanley, a few days after, proposed his reward, a sum of 5,000*l.* only was named; and the resolution was seconded and agreed to. The House had not the generosity to pay even this paltry sum free of fees and expenses. When a second attempt for a more adequate remuneration was made, Sir Robert Peel, Crompton's "primitive enemy," took care that there should

be no chance of success. Crompton had never forgiven Peel for his shabby conduct about the mule, and would not court his influence; and Peel, who knew that he had injured and defrauded him, was, consequently, his bitterest enemy, and stood in his way whenever he could. Nothing more was ever done for him. The King, who was fond of patronizing merit, took no notice of him; his eldest son was promised a commission, which he did not get; and some time after, when struggling through life on only a hundred a year, the post of Sub-inspector of the factories in Bolton became vacant, though he applied for the office, for which he was eminently qualified, he was passed over in favour of the natural son of one of the ex-secretaries of State—a man who did not know a mule from a spinning-jenny. This fact, too, Mr. French has suppressed. Perhaps in a second edition he will be less timid. "Nothing is so foolish as inventing," said James Watt, but he fell into honourable hands. What, if on his way to Jericho he had fallen among thieves, like poor Crompton?

On the 26th of June 1827, all this turmoil and disappointment came to an end. Samuel Crompton died as he had lived, poor and overlooked by the great whom he had helped to make great, and who might have helped him in turn, but respected and loved by all who knew him. He died without a stain on his character. So shy and diffident that he could not, as he said, "face up" to meet a public dinner proposed to be given to him in Glasgow, he was often known to leave the market with his goods unsold, rather than chaffer for prices or run the risk of being pointed at as a celebrity. It is well that England should know all her martyrs, both those who suffer bravely for the truth, with plaudits all around and a halo of glory and renown over their names for all times,—and those, the "sinless Cains," who do great deeds that help forward human kind, yet themselves live under the curse which nothing can remove. Crompton was one of those sinless Cains. Good to others flowed out like living water from his hands, but none returned to his own bosom—he gave, but received not,—he sowed, but never reaped. Yet England at this moment is fattening on the harvest he procured for her and looking round upon her riches quite forgetful of the hand to which she owes them. Mr. French has raised his small tablet to the memory of this "martyr of industry": we gladly give it a helping hand, and do our best to grave the letters deeper.

*Recollections and Correspondence drawn from the Papers of Madame Récamier.—(Souvenirs, &c.) (Paris, Lévy; London, Clarke.)*

Among the circles of Paris, which have been closed during the last ten years, few—not excepting the society of that veteran intriguer in petticoats, the Princess Lieven—have more constantly excited attention than the *salon* of Madame Récamier. There is not much chance of the institution being revived.—If wits, politicians and beauties to come rule any town and any men of their times, it must be by other spells. They can hardly, by magic or miracle, have such complex and peculiar training as their predecessors. Hence the memorials of the last of these queens regnant of society are rapidly becoming Sibylline leaves; having something of extra value added to their own intrinsic interest—by the strange harlequinades to which French society seems doomed.

Beyond this,—in the case of Madame Récamier, expectation was warned ten years since, by the animated trial which took place regarding her relics and papers. It is not yet



forgotten how that indefatigable vender of the dust and ashes of her distinguished friends, Madame Louise Colet, rushed forward, first in the race among the mourners, (even as she got the start, more recently, behind M. Béranger's hearse), in impatience to tell the world everything which could be told or raked together concerning the select lady of the *Abbaye aux Bois*, and one of her lovers, M. Benjamin Constant.—The letters of that well-known publicist, who was accused, in his transactions with other distinguished women (*vide* Madame de Charrière), of that sort of philandering which may mean passion or imply something more Platonic, had been laid away for publication, in some tender moment, by Madame Récamier. Nay more, they had been positively entrusted to Madame Colet for publication. But the Beauty had her fits of ebbing as well as of flowing—one year she would write her own confessions, the next destroy them. It was insisted by her heirs that she had revoked the donation of the Constant papers. *They*, at least, were resolved that the love-letters should not see the light: and on Madame Colet becoming restiff and determined (as she insisted, by Béranger's approval) to contest the matter, it was necessary to call upon Law, ere unauthorized disclosure could be restrained by family discretion from telling its tale of false and true—of too much and too little—and from displaying the Beauty, not in that decent and poetical twilight in which the latter part of her life was shrouded, but in the flare and glare, which is trying, not to say unbecoming, to every woman. It was right, for the general cause of literature, that an embargo should be laid on the Grief and Curiosity trade, which the enthusiastic Madame Colet proposed on the spot to drive. It may have been politic for special reasons.

These are strongly suggested by the taste and tone of the volumes before us. The introduction, written with some grace and dexterity, with apparent confidence and real reserve, will strike most readers as a piece of pleading,—and this because, to those who have not the key, it precludes a book which conveys no distinct idea whatsoever of the fascinating and world-famed *Armida*, to whom the book is devoted. Between the young plebeian, whose bust, and arms, and eyes, and hair,—whose taste in *costume*, whose knowledge of her own good "points" drew all Europe to her feet—"Prussia" and "Russia," Bonaparte, Bernadotte and Wellington—who gave her portrait to Princes, and was received with almost royal courtesies when she travelled,—between this spoiled and resplendent beauty, and the elder lady who set up an oratory in which the wearisome and selfish Chateaubriand was allowed to be High Priest, no harmony is established in this work. The survivor who has put it together has worked in all sincerity, affection and reverence; but the goddess undraped and the goddess draped are neither of them—young nor old—divine, if tried by either the canons of Pagan or of Papistical divinity. That which "comes out" is the impression of a woman who understood every art of expediency:—when young, to subjugate those whom she disdained to satisfy, and to use them as subjects;—when old, to choose a throne of other colour, but of like stuff. The memorialist represents Madame Récamier to have been nearly as averse to what was "conspicuous" as Fanny Burney herself,—and yet she will be found, in her habitual exclusions, in her exceptional admissions, in her smoothings down of all such rough recollected things as old principle, old faith, old habits, when the due time came,—as awake to notoriety as the veriest *Cleopatra* who ever "kissed away

kingdoms" in her passion, and who died of an asp rather than submit to the disgrace of defeat.—She has been ranged among women as the Beauty, not the *bel esprit*. Hardly one letter of hers is here printed, though very many epistles to her from her adorers of every age, are. She made progress in "memoirs," which she is said to have destroyed out of scruple. Some pages of these, ambiguously rescued, figure in this book—and show literary powers sufficient to make distant folk ask, why, when all her communications to Chateaubriand are eliminated, should every scrap of old, faded, egotistic flattery which he addressed to her be left? There is an impression, in short, of making up and toning-down—of mystery more provocative because of partial, probably unintentional, liftings of the veil, which make these memoirs noticeable even among the memoirs of celebrated women.

Madame Récamier was born at Lyons in 1777, the daughter of a notary of the town,—a gentle but weak man, but wedded to a wife from whom the child inherited her beauty. The recollections of these early years must have been furnished by Juliette (Madame Récamier) herself. The innocence with which her triumphs, even in her baby-days is put forward, as the main thing recollected, is noticeable as a marking trait. It was all, she implied, her mother's doing. When they went to see Louis Seize and Marie-Antoinette dine in state, the extraordinary loveliness of the child, among the crowd, excited such attention that she was "commanded" to the private apartments for inspection,—after dinner was over, measured against Madame Royale, and found the taller of the two; at which, it is recollected, Madame Royale was displeased.—When she was fifteen she was married to a husband aged forty-two, M. Récamier, the son of a merchant of Lyons, who rose to be a financier; a man of some culture, we are assured, handsome, "fair, and vigorously built,"—who was helpful to living friends, but cared nothing for the dead,—who talked fairly and naturally; who was perfectly well-bred, who preferred the company of those beneath him.—Out of these scattered traits it is not easy to derive an idea of what M. Récamier was. Juliette, however, was perfectly satisfied with the match; entirely willing (in despite of maternal representations) to embark her happiness with one whom she had always considered as an old man, and who, we are assured in the most explicit terms (still a handsome man, be it recollected, aged forty-two)—gave to the angelic child merely his name and his paternal care.—He had, we are subsequently told, an incurable love for match-making; and the result was that, as all match-makers deserve to be, he was incurably unlucky. He fitted out old M. de La Harpe (who now lives, to us, as a name rather than a man of letters) with a young lady, Mlle. de Longueue, the daughter of an old widow; but *May* refused to harbour with *January* more than three weeks. She would go home,—she would have a divorce; she got it.—To return, M. Récamier himself married during the Terror, and the bridegroom had the cheerful habit of assisting at all the executions which took place—explaining this, in after years, by saying that he had done so in preparation for his own turn. This is almost all, save after vicissitudes of fortune, which the book reveals concerning M. Récamier.

With the Directory began the triumphs of the beauty of his virgin-wife.—A scene of scandal was caused by the sensation excited when she consented to collect after Mass in the Church of St. Roch. People swarmed up the pillars and got on the altars to look at her; and

the collection produced *twenty thousand francs*. The Récamier produced a no-less dazzling effect at Longchamps. She bewitched the world—even as a beauty of different repute, Lady Hamilton, did—by dancing "a shawl dance." It is added, with a prudence not to be sufficiently admired "she only consented to execute this during the first years of her youth."—She preferred dressing in white, and with pearls as her only ornaments (diamonds never), in order that she might even outdo their snow by the "inconceivable whiteness" of her shoulders. The eclipsing, overpowering effect of this was owned, even by a rival beauty, Madame Regnault-de-St.-Jean-d'Angely. That lady recounted, when an elderly woman, that, though she herself was more regularly beautiful, in the eyes of "true amateurs," Madame Récamier was the more effective; and that once, when the two were fairly in duel in the same *salon*, those white shoulders for a moment turned the scale.—"It is true," came Madame Regnault's consolation, "that after a moment all the 'true amateurs' returned to me."—The story, whimsically recalls the effect produced at our last coronation by the white shoulders of the Extraordinary Beauty sent from Russia to grace the ceremony—Madame Zavadowski. But that whiteness was more short-lived than Madame Récamier's: being merely the paleness of prophesied death.

The Beauty in White was not to be overlooked, though we are invited (faintly, it is true,) to conceive that she did not mean to be looked at, still less to traffic on her beauty.—At a festival at the Luxembourg, and, again, at a concert given there by M. Barras, she was observed by Bonaparte, and made such an effect at the supper on the latter occasion, that a verse was *improvised* in glory of—the shoulders! At the close of the year 1798, on the occasion of the purchase of M. Necker's hotel, Madame Récamier and Madame de Staël were brought into acquaintance. A leaf (one of the leaves fortuitously preserved) of Madame Récamier's diary records the "strange *toilette*, the little bonnet covered with flowers," owing to which Madame Récamier conceived the lady who arrived on a business visit to be a foreigner.—Then the leaf goes on to tell how, having read the 'Letters on Rousseau,' she was more fascinated on the discovery of her guest's identity than she found words to express,—how her guest confounded her by complimenting her on her beauty in so impulsive a manner as to deprive such approval of its awkwardness,—and how the foundation was laid of a fast friendship. Let us add, that whatever may have been the vanities of Madame Récamier, her life gave proof that her loyalty to those whom she adopted as friends was equal to her vanity. Her friendship with Madame de Staël was really what we have designated it—a *fast* friendship. This attribute entirely removes its owner from among the category of common Beauties.

The Necker Hotel, bought by M. Récamier, whose fortunes were just then at the top of the wave, was sumptuously decorated and arranged, and its inmates for a while seem to have enjoyed a life of "mutual understanding," financial splendour, and social success, such as only can possibly be led by an opulent man, unencumbered with family or estates, who has married a delicate and beautiful woman.—M. Lucien Bonaparte fell passionately in love with Madame Récamier: and wrote letters to her as "Romeo" to "Juliet." The love she did not understand, or reciprocate; but the letters she received *dramatically*,—laughed (says her biographer) at his anguish,—trembled at other times beneath his threats,—allowed the love-



tragedy (we are assured without love on her side) to go on for a whole year, and came out of it all on the dropping of the curtain "with a spotless reputation and profound grief."—"This," says the Editor of this strange book, "was her first vocation." But *Juliet*, on being pressed to give back the letters, after the curtain had dropped, quietly refused: and, says our wonderful editor, "I now hold them as the indisputable testimony to her virtue." Old-fashioned people may be allowed to ask, whether Virtue accepts or endures,—or does not return,—such letters? When M. Lucien Bonaparte was Minister of the Interior, at Paris, during this *Romeo* fit, no one was so brilliant at his *fiât* as *Juliet*, in satin, pearls, and shoulders to match.—The host happened to be absent when the *fiât* began: but the lady was "found charming" by the First Consul, who desired that she should be told as much in so many raw words by Fouché, and who expressed a wish that not merely Lucien, but himself, too, might be invited to dine at the Beauty's table, which was royally kept—by M. Récamier.

My intercourse with Bernardotte (wrote Madame Récamier) was connected with a too important and sorrowful event of my life to be ever forgotten. In August, 1802, my father was Administrator of the Post. At that period an active Royalist correspondence was disturbing the Government; and letters and pamphlets were circulated in the South without the channel being discovered. It was suspected that this was a public functionary,—the head, even, of the office. One day, Madame Bacciochi, sister to the First Consul, asked me to invite M. de La Harpe to meet her at dinner. At the moment when we were rising from table a note was given to my mother. She glanced at it; gave a cry of distress, and fainted. The note contained the news of the arrest of my father, who had been taken to the prison of the Temple. It fell among us like a clap of thunder. Stunned by this cruel event, to the consequences of which I dared not look forward, I still felt the necessity of commanding my distress, and summoning all my courage, I approached Madame Bacciochi, whose aspect bespoke more annoyance than sympathy. "Madame," said I, in a voice faltering with emotion, "Providence, who has caused you to witness the disaster which has fallen on us, wishes, without doubt, to make you our saviour. I must see the First Consul this very day; and I rely on you, Madame, to obtain for me this interview."—"But," said Madame Bacciochi, with embarrassment, "it might be better that you should first go to Fouché, and ascertain from him the real state of the case. After that if it be necessary for you to see my brother, come and tell me; and we will see what it will be possible to do."—"Where shall I find you, Madame?" was my reply, without allowing myself to be discouraged by the coldness of her language.—"At the *Théâtre Français*, in my box; I am going there to join my sister." \* \* I called for my carriage, and hurried to the house of Fouché. He received me like one who well knew my errand. "Your father's case," said he, "is a serious one—very serious. See the First Consul this very evening. Obtain from him that the act of accusation shall not be drawn out,—to-morrow it will be too late. This is all I can do for you." \* \* The only hope I had was in Madame Bacciochi; and I decided, cost me what it would, that I would go and meet her where she had told me.—On reaching the *Théâtre Français* I could hardly support myself. The noise—the crowd—the lights—caused me a strange and grievous sensation. I wrapped myself in my shawl, and was taken to the box of Madame Bacciochi, which they opened for me, at the end of an act. She was there with Madame Leclerc. On seeing me she could not conceal an expression of extreme annoyance; but I was kept up by a feeling too strong to heed it. "I am come, Madame," said I, "to claim the execution of your promise. It is necessary that I should speak this very night to the First Consul, or my father is lost."—"Well, then," said Madame Bacciochi coldly, "let them end the

tragedy; after that I am at your service."—I could only resign myself to wait. I sat, or rather let myself fall down, in the furthest corner of the box. Fortunately, it was a *proscenium-box*, very deep and very dark, in which I could give myself up, without constraint, to all my desolate thoughts. I then remarked, for the first time, in a corner opposite to mine, a man, whose large black eyes, fixed on me, expressed an interest so ardent and profound, that I felt touched by it. After having encountered so much coldness, I felt some consolation in meeting with a little kindness and compassion. At that moment Madame Leclerc, suddenly turning towards me, asked me if I had already seen Lafont in the part of *Achilles*.—And without waiting for my answer,—"He is very handsome," she added; "but to-night he has a helmet which disfigures his head horribly."—At this idle question, which displayed such utter indifference to my situation,—at these words, at once so cruel and frivolous,—the Unknown made a gesture of impatience; and determining, no doubt, to put an end to my torture, leaned across to Madame Bacciochi. "Madame Récamier appears to be in pain," said he to her, in a half-whisper; "if she will give me permission, I will take her back home, and undertake to speak to the First Consul."—"Yes; by all means," replied Madame Bacciochi eagerly, enchanted to be rid of such a burthen, "nothing can be more fortunate for you," added she, turning towards me. "Trust yourself with General Bernadotte. No person is in a better position to serve you than he."

The smitten General, it is needless to add, succeeded in securing the personal safety of M. Bernard. The Saint-Helena Memorial gave another version of the tale, and spoke of a personal interview betwixt the Beauty and the Ruler—of her unsuccessful cries and tears—to deny which, the anecdote seems to have been written or preserved. Madame Récamier was little in the society of Bonaparte, but the fault was her own; since we are given plainly to understand that he, like all the rest, was conquered by her fascinations; made advances to her without receiving response; and that hence might have arisen the pique and severity which subsequently exiled her from Paris, as the accomplice and intimate friend of the redoubtable Authoress of '*Corinne*.'—The two women did plot together, it is admitted, but conspired with no political intent. They frequented masked balls. The mask, which took away from the Wit much of her noted eloquence and repartee, is said to have given the Beauty a boldness and brilliancy of talk not her own. But as she would neither change her voice, nor fall into the familiar language of those festivities, Madame Récamier's mask was, after all, no mask.—The Prince, afterwards King of Wurtemberg, was so free on one of these occasions as to be rebuked; and the note in which he begged pardon is adroitly preserved. During a winter, too, the Beauty availed herself of the masquerades to make acquaintance with Prince Metternich, who would have fallen into bad odour as Secretary to the Austrian Embassy, had he openly frequented her house.—Then there was the Grand Hereditary Duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, who was not allowed to form one of her general circle, out of consideration for himself; but who was let in as a solitary guest when there were no receptions: and was caught by the Count Mathieu de Montmorency. In short, no woman can have been the object of more ovations than Madame Récamier, and we are again and again anxiously assured, that no reproach mingled itself with these enjoyments of her "dancing days":—that all was purity, refinement, and tact.—She was within an inch of becoming the wife of Prince Augustus of Prussia, who became passionately in love with her. She was touched by his ardour,—"*if*," says the biographer, with the usual caution, "she did not return it." A divorce was to be

obtained; promises were exchanged: and the consent of M. Récamier asked. But M. Récamier, while professing his willingness to consult his nominal wife's wishes, so touched her by his considerate paternal unselfishness, that she took the heroine's part;—broke with the Prince gently, hoping that separation would do its work;—refused to proceed further with the affair, and sent him her portrait. In exchange, the Prince presented her with Gérard's well-known picture of '*Corinne*.'

Slight as is the above sketch of a few events in the early career of a woman's lilies and roses (heart, we conceive, being totally to be left out of the record), it is still somewhat of the longest, giving, as it does, some account of only the first one hundred and fifty pages of a first volume. We shall probably, therefore, return to the book.

*The Habits of Good Society: a Handbook of Etiquette for Ladies and Gentlemen, with Thoughts, Hints, and Anecdotes concerning Social Observances, Nice Points of Taste, and Good Manners; and the Art of making One's self Agreeable.* (Hogg & Sons.)

If Horace Walpole had taught himself the art of letter-writing by the '*Complete Letter Writer*,' he would never have distinguished himself in that polite art. Pronouncing vocabularies make unhappy students speak a language than which Babel had never anything less intelligible. The '*Perfect Carver*' has led to terrible table-catastrophes. 'Every Man his own Lawyer' has proverbially shown that the man who so sets up has a fool for his client. Buchan's '*Domestic Medicine*' has slain as many victims as Juggernaut; and manuals, generally, have too often been like that tipsy Lord Steward, who pulled with him to the ground the sovereign he should have supported.

Here, too, we have an addition to the list;—the "habits of good society" taught in a week, and warranted to look as well as if the wearer had worn them from his cradle. Lucky low person of yesterday, in half-a-dozen lessons you may, with a little care, pass for a gentleman, and prattle about the "nice conduct of a clouded cane." There is now a patent medicine for everything, and the "Cough no more" in the lozenge-shops has its parallel in the "Be low no longer" of the libraries. Really, if the writers on manners, not morals, increase, we stand a very good chance of becoming a highly-polished and ridiculous nation.

Let the Social-Congress folks look to it! If these books succeed, we shall have no middle classes. We shall all perish, save the *habitués* of good society and the Pariahs, who, like the boy of the Margate ballad, love to be vulgar. It is, indeed, not to be denied that the middle class, the longitude, and the method of squaring the circle have been equally difficult of discovery. The lord of territory looks upon his "agent" as belonging to that class; but the "agent" has a son in a crack regiment, and that son looks upon his perfumer as of the class in question. The perfumer, again, who has his country-house, drives his four-in-hand, smells of Araby the Blest, and is fooled by captains of crack and every other sort of regiment, hands down the Helot passport to his tailor, and so it continues to be sent lower, till it comes to the hands of the indignant costermonger who has a vote for a borough, for which he is solicited by candidates who address him and his fellow-costermongers by the title of "gentlemen."

The degrees of gentility are studies of themselves. Old French nobles about to be guillotined would not visit one another in their

cells till they were satisfied that such visit would not be a derogation; and, with them, true gentility, apart from nobility, consisted in manners. We may exemplify their meaning by noticing their admiration of Louis the Fifteenth, the husband who failed in every duty to a wife, save courtesy. "His Most Sacred Majesty," said the priestly writer of his 'Eloge,' "was the most faithless, but the most polite of husbands!"

This reminds us that the French Revolution, which may be said to have commenced when this polite traitor died, and which is far from yet being concluded, has been accompanied by a revolution in the "habits of good society." The time was when the national habit over the Channel was exceedingly like the particular habit of Louis the Fifteenth,—a habit of courtesy, whatever heart—good, bad, or indifferent—beat behind that habit. They who have been acquainted from their early youth with French social customs must be aware of the great change for the worse that has come over them. Except in remote country districts and among a few very aged people, the fine, old, high-bred courtesy has absolutely perished. To say of a man's social bearing that it was distinguished by "quite a French politeness," was as high a compliment as could be paid to him. The phrase, however, has lost nearly all its value. The decay of "French politeness" is nowhere more painfully seen than in the extinction of the old chivalrous feeling towards women:—towards women of every age. For women of every age there was once a reverence, for every age was allowed to possess its peculiar charm; but now, as a "Dame de quarante ans" lately feelingly complained to us, "a Frenchman in presence of a woman of forty is no longer a *gentil cavalier*, but a brute."

That we at home have not reached true perfection is supposed, if not proved, by the volume before us:—a volume which, not lacking sense, is too flippant and coarse to accomplish the cure at which it aims. Of the quality of the book here are some samples:—

"Even cleanliness can be exaggerated, as in the case of the Pharisees, and the late Duke of Queensberry, who would wash in nothing but milk. Our own Queen uses distilled water only for her toilet; but this is not a case in point, since it is for the sake of health, I believe, with her. A sad case, however, was that of the lovely Princess Alexandra of Bavaria, who died mad from over-cleanliness. It began by extreme scrupulousness. At dinner she would minutely examine her plate, and if she saw the slightest speck on it, would send for another. She would then turn the napkin round and round to examine every corner, and often rise from table because she thought she was not served properly in this respect. At last it became a monomania, till on plates, napkins, dishes, table-cloth, and everything else, she believed she saw nothing but masses of dirt. It weighed on her mind, poor thing; she could not be clean enough, and it drove her to insanity."

Here is something, too, which may lead our readers to suspect that the author has not graduated in the politest of Universities. Tom Cribb might have written this behind his bar, in Pantion Street:—

"Of course to knock a man down is never good manners, but there is a way of doing it gracefully, and one rule should be observed, viz., whether you can command your temper or not, never show it, except by the blow. Never assail an offender with words, nor when you strike him, use such expressions as, 'Take that,' &c. There are cases in society when it is quite incumbent on you to knock an offender down, if you can, whether you feel angry or not, so that if to do so is not precisely good manners, to omit it is sometimes very bad manners; and to box, and that well, is therefore an important accomplishment, particularly for little men."

Wading through numberless pages of potter we come to an illustration that may remind our readers of the Spurgeon Quadrilles:—

"Those who rail against dancing are perhaps not aware that they do but follow in the steps of the Romish Church. In many parts of the Continent, bishops who have never danced in their lives, and perhaps never even seen a dance, have laid a ban of excommunication on waltzing. A story was told me in Normandy of the worthy Bishop of Bayeux, one of this number. A priest of his diocese petitioned him to put down round dances. 'I know nothing about them,' replied the prelate, 'I have never even seen a waltz.' Upon this the younger ecclesiastic attempted to explain what it was and wherein the danger lay, but the Bishop could not see it. 'Will Monseigneur permit me to show him?' asked the priest. 'Certainly. My chaplain here appears to understand the subject; let me see you two waltz.' How the reverend gentlemen came to know so much about it does not appear, but they certainly danced a polka, a gallop, and a *trois-temps* waltz. 'All these seem harmless enough,' 'Oh! but Monseigneur has not seen the worst;' and thereupon the two gentlemen proceeded to flounder through a *valse à deux-temps*. They must have murdered it terribly, for they were not half round the room when his Lordship cried out, 'Enough, enough, that is atrocious, and deserves excommunication.' Accordingly this waltz was forbidden, while the other dances were allowed. I was at a public ball at Caen soon after this occurrence, and was amused to find the *trois-temps* danced with a peculiar scuffle, by way of compromise between conscience and pleasure."

Some of the author's truths are a good deal like truisms, as where he reminds us that "Soup must be helped with a ladle," and that "One must never smoke in church." The acquaintance with society displayed in the following extract is "delicious":—

"But if you smoke, or if you are in the company of smokers, and are to wear your clothes in the presence of ladies afterwards, you must change them to smoke in. A host who asks you to smoke, will generally offer you an old coat for the purpose. You must also, after smoking, rinse the mouth well out, and, if possible, brush the teeth. You should never smoke in another person's house without leave, and you should not ask leave to do so, if there are ladies in the house. When you are going to smoke a cigar yourself, you should offer one at the same time to anybody present, if not a clergyman or a very old man. You should always smoke a cigar given to you, whether good or bad, and never make any remarks on its quality."

How polite, then, was the old Scotch peasant, who, having a cigar given to him, thought it was to be eaten, and ate it accordingly, much disgusted, but civilly resigned! Here is something more exquisite still! We leave it to the ladies:—

"The bearing of married women should so far differ from that of the unmarried, that there should be greater quietness and dignity; a more close adherence to forms; and an obvious, as well as a real abandonment of the admiration which has been received before marriage."

On the subject of marriage, generally, the author gets into trouble and looks impertinent. We have some mistrust of his accounts of travel, society, and college-life, and know very well to what Table-books he is indebted for his few good anecdotes,—but this by the way. With regard to marriage, it is singular to hear the expounder of the maxims of good society gravely reminding his readers that "During the period that elapses before the marriage the betrothed man should conduct himself with peculiar deference to the lady's family." The italics are ours, but the words so marked indicate a peculiar sense of time and propriety.

*The Nautical Almanac and Astronomical Ephemeris for the Year 1863.* (Murray.)

PRICE two and sixpence: five hundred pages as full of figures as they can be printed; being at the rate of four such pages for a trifle less than a farthing: this is the encouragement given by the nation, through the Government, for mariners to take a safe guide to sea, and for the public to cultivate astronomy.

Mr. Hind, the superintendent of this work, under the Lords of the Admiralty, who are officially responsible for the goodness of his trigonometry whether they happen to know the meaning of the word or not, conducts this work at the head of a small board of computers, in a set of chambers at Verulam Buildings, Gray's Inn. Mr. Hind began life at the Observatory of Greenwich; was recommended to Mr. Bishop as a fit person to have the management of his observatory in the Regent's Park, where he added ten small planets to the solar system, besides much other good work of a less popular character; and was finally appointed over the Nautical Almanac in 1853.

There is no occasion for the public press to undertake any guardianship of this Almanac, any editorial guardianship at least: it is a well-watched book. There is not a sea on the globe in which its figures are not in daily requisition and verification; and it is the companion of the observatory astronomer as well as of the seaman. About thirty years ago, when there was some dissatisfaction with the manner in which it was conducted, it was curious to see the way in which the daily papers allowed the assailants to use their columns, day after day, on matters which were Greek to most of the readers. But all could feel that, however unintelligible the work to what is called the general reader, the seaman's safety was a national concern. These complaints have long been hushed. In 1830, the Government of the day intrusted to the Astronomical Society the remodelling of the plan. In 1834, the first Almanac of the reformed system appeared; and since that time all complaint has been confined to this or that astronomer, who felt that this or that matter of detail was not attended to as much as he could wish. The newspaper criticism on the Nautical Almanac is now a matter of history.

As we are writing for many of those to whom the difference between heliocentric and geocentric longitude is mainly a matter of spelling, we shall not go into any detail as to the contents of this work. They would not make much of an account of the planet Mercury, for example, during the year 1863, in very few words, but these words the heading of columns containing about eighteen thousand figures. To turn to a matter in which the great public may take some interest, we shall mention the new planets.

At the time when the good old notion that the number of the planets must be the sacred number seven—the Sun and Moon included—was, perhaps, not wholly exploded, but still lingered, at least among some of the astrologers, William Herschel disturbed the vested rights of the godfathers of the week-days by presumptuously discovering Uranus: we say presumptuously, in deference to the opinion expressed by a contemporary, not very many years since, that it is both "vain and wicked to attempt to probe the infinity of space." And here let us pause a moment, to remark how deeply the notion of anything vast of its kind has been invested with ideas of awe and terror. We might associate with our excellent contemporary the mistress of a country school, which we knew of many years ago, who held—and not alone in her part of the country—that it was wicked to point towards the direction



from which lightning was shining. Any little boy who offended in this kind—as our ancestors used to say—was made to kneel on the floor blindfold, which is, perhaps, the way in which our contemporary would have served Lord Rosse. The mention of this astronomer leads us back to the heavens; and, we go on to say, that since the time of the discovery of Uranus, Neptune and *fifty-six* small planets have been added to our system. The astronomers introduced the great four which were discovered at the beginning of the century into the Nautical Almanac, on equal terms with the rest; but when one after another began to tumble in, until more than a score were to be provided for, it began to be clear that some retrenchment must be effected. The small planets are now consigned to a separate volume of Ephemerides, of an extent sufficient to find them when wanted. But, we may ask, can even this go on? The number of these bodies will increase. We now call them scores; they will become hundreds, perhaps thousands. To what extent will it be thought necessary to provide almanac-room for them? Shall we have an Ephemeris, one of these days, of the five thousand small planets? We suspect the time will come when the attempt will be discontinued; when increase of telescopic power will show that there are myriads of these specks, of which we have only, as yet, caught a few of the largest. That is to say, it will be found that the Sun has a ring, like Saturn: many have suspected that Saturn's ring is nothing but a congeries of speck-satellites; much closer, it may be, than those of our Sun, but still detached from each other. Accordingly, astronomical necessity, the mother of her invention, will detect some mode of keeping a tolerable number of these specks in view, so as to judge from their combined manifestations what is taking place in the ring, considered as a whole. Nor are we at all bound to suppose it impossible that our Sun, at a great distance, might appear encompassed by a luminous ring. We know how dense a cloud of dust appears afar off, which to a person enveloped in it, is only an unpleasant contiguity of separable atoms. And, *per contra*, the inhabitants of Saturn—for, in spite of Dr. Whewell, we shall rather incline to suppose such inhabitants until the contrary is proved—may be in utter unconsciousness, up to this moment, of the existence of *their rings*.

*Poems.* By Thomas Ashe. (Bell & Daldy.)  
*Lyrics of Life.* By Frederic W. Farrar. (Macmillan & Co.)  
*The Three Gates. In Verse.* By C. H. Townshend. (Chapman & Hall.)

HERE are collections of poetry which require something warmer in the way of acceptance from conscientious persons than the phrase of benediction and dismissal. The best of them may not be immortal, yet the poorest in fancy and music is worth more than a passing thought. The practised eye can see through the veil and the mist,—can allow for inexperience and incompleteness, in recognition of such feeling and fancy as have urged the aspirant to break silence,—can appreciate what is real—and in proportion to the practice will be the charity. Such allowance avails little to those who are not habituated to weigh or to admit: but who simply listen for song, hunger for thought, and seek that which shall charm by novelty, or convince by completeness. Betwixt the poets who would be the charmers of the public ear, and the multitude who sit and scoff, the part of witness is not an easy one; as we have felt in the case of these volumes—too good to be

thrown by, yet hardly good enough to enjoy a long life of favour.

Mr. Townshend has sung to the world already a series of 'Sermons in Sonnets'; sonnets which the select readers of modern sacred poetry have set good store by, as works composed in a manly key, and with an organ-pitch of their own very far removed from the small piping strain in which so large a portion of the sacred and devotional verse of our time is delivered. Mr. Townshend, in his 'Sermons in Sonnets,' and in his 'Three Gates,' has built his style and method on Milton's; and among the many confessing disciples of the great master, he is entitled to a conspicuous place. Those who still love to see "high argument" embodied in rhyme, will turn with curiosity to 'The Three Gates.' The volume is inscribed to Mr. Dickens in a glowing strain of compliment and affection:

I saw thee from afar compel  
 The crowd with magic art;  
 Beneath the power that wove the spell  
 I found the genial heart.

The first gate is inscribed the Mystery of Evil,—the second, Love,—the third, the Law of Love. We shall not stay to unveil the mystery shrouded in the poet's plan. We prefer to let him speak a word for himself to the reader in one of his detached sonnets—a fair expression of his range of thought and reach of Art:—

I saw the bindweed twining round the corn,  
 And from that sight a thousand thoughts were born.  
 Graceful the bindweed look'd, although a weed,  
 Precious for ornament, if not for need.  
 The strong tall stalk how lovingly it clad!  
 And of its comrade did the stalk seem glad;  
 Ay, proud of the pink almond-smelling flowers  
 That grow so cup-shaped like to fairies' bowers.  
 Yet, said I, men will part these comrades twain,  
 And cry, 'the weed doth spoil the precious grain!'  
 Will throw the weed away to fade and die,  
 But lay the grain in precious garner by:  
 "And yet God is," I cried with voice forlorn,  
 "God of the weed not less than of the corn!"

The first verse in the volume by Mr. Ashe, opening his poem of 'An Old Hall,' will show our readers that tones and touches of other singers linger in his recollections:—

AN OLD HALL.  
 Now these many centuries,  
 Slowly through the morning skies,  
 The morning mists come sailing by,  
 Along the scary mountain ridge;  
 Crumbling the ancient masonry  
 Of armorial arch and bridge:  
 With lichen-fret and slow decay  
 Gawing the ivied halls away;  
 Clothing the faded loveliness  
 Of rotted limes with mouldering grey:  
 Where ladies walked in silken dress,—  
 Loved to pace in gay delight,  
 And low-voiced lovers came at night  
 Along the moon-lit terraces.

Yet Mr. Ashe, if he would clear himself from his trammels of admiration, might have a way of his own,—as the following song, wild and musical, though weak in some lines, shows distinctly:—

THE COTTAGE LIGHT.  
 Death came over the ocean wide,  
 And crept along the river tide;  
 Up the river, the river, the river,  
 To the cottage by the water-side,  
 And a maiden in that cottage died.  
 Sorrow came up out of his place,  
 And look'd the parents in the face;  
 O the sorrow, the sorrow, the sorrow,  
 That drove the gladness out of the days,  
 And the comfort out of the ancient ways!  
 Why sit so sad in the red fire-light,  
 Though the blaze of the wood-log flickers so bright?  
 And how should it be, should it be, should it be,  
 That the aged locks should grow so white,  
 And the bleak wind seem so bitter at night?  
 Ah, why should the old ones linger the last,  
 Now the snows of winter gather so fast;  
 Sitting weeping and weeping and weeping?  
 So Death came up on the winter blast,  
 And round by the cottage window pass'd.  
 Mayhap he enter'd in at the door,  
 And mayhap he heard his step on the floor;  
 But the green moss growth and growth and growth;  
 And the light at night is seen no more,  
 That in the window flicker'd before.

Mr. Farrar is richer in words, more meagre in fancies, than Mr. Ashe,—less amenable,

however, to the charge of imitation; like Mr. Ashe, not to be confounded with the herd, neither to be ranked with the few. The following, a quaint harping on one string, is a fair specimen from his volume:—

WHAT CHILDHOOD WAS.  
 Give me back, oh give me something of the flowers and the gold,  
 And the depths of crimson glory that the summer eves unfold,  
 And the tones of merry music from the rippling water: rolled;  
 Give me back the vanished moments with their wealth of joy untold,  
 And the childhood, and the gladness, and the glory, and the gold,  
 Give them back, ere my heart too is cold!  
 Give me back the rosy blossom and the glances bright and bold,  
 And if night or twilight cometh as our lives on earth grow old,  
 Let the gloom be starry-sprinkled with a lustre manifold:  
 Ere the sunny garden alter to a dank and ragged wold,  
 Ere the midday blight the corn-ear, ere the fruit be white with mould;  
 Give, oh give, if for one moment, give the flowers and the gold,  
 Memories of our childhood's May-time, magical with flowers and gold,  
 Give them back ere our hearts too are cold!

There are too much of swoon—too much of sorrow in Mr. Farrar's Lyrics: but there is music in some of them, nevertheless. Is it of any use to whisper to such delicately-minded men as we are here meeting that they require bracing? There are, for the moment, forgotten poets, as well worthy of study as the Author of 'In Memoriam,' or 'The Flight of the Duchess.' Does any one read Crabbe's 'Ruth,' or 'The Sisters,' or 'The Lover's Journey,' or 'The Patron' now?—Yet those are great studies for any artist: because every line adds a touch, and every word a colour to the picture; and if hard the picture be (as some say), it is still full of life, full of observation,—and the poem is not without humour, not without pathos, not without the cadences of well-balanced language.—If the literature of times to come is to live, there must, we are satisfied, be more of respect for, if not of return to English poets made light of at the moment; who were, nevertheless, "good men and true" some fifty years ago.

*Expeditions into the Valley of the Amazons,* 1539, 1540, 1639. Translated and Edited, with Notes, by Clements R. Markham. (Printed for the Hakluyt Society.)

THESE narratives of Spanish and Portuguese adventure have a peculiar significance at present. In reading them it is impossible not to think of later expeditions, as full of hardihood and endurance, but more hapless in their issue than Gonzalo Pizarro's. Even now voyagers well acquainted with the navigation of the Amazon are amazed at such daring as prompted Orellana, caiff though he was, to venture on the current of an unknown river "for near two thousand leagues, in a vessel hastily constructed with green timber, and by very unskilful hands, without provisions, without a compass, or a pilot"; but it is to be remembered that the bold lances of those days plucked the nettle Danger, regardless of the flower Safety, and in their enterprises they never had the misfortune to be shackled by any official restraint. There is something delightful, too, in the circumstance of monks outgrowing the limits of the convent, and wandering forth, for the love of God and man, to become map-makers and geographers; and in battered hats and broken sandals, and upon a diet of roots, or now and then smoked monkey, "to take notes of all that was worthy of mark—measure heights—note down all the tributary rivers by their names—become acquainted with the nations who dwell on their banks, and finally leave nothing of which they could not say that they had been faithful eye-



witnesses." The volume before us contains Pizarro's 'Expedition to the Land of Cinnamon,' translated from Garcilasso,—'The Voyage of Orellana down the River of the Amazons,' taken from Herrera,—and 'The New Discovery of the Great River of the Amazons,' translated from Acuña. This last work, printed in 1641, at Madrid, is the earliest and perhaps the completest published account of the discovery of the Amazon. Four manuscript copies of it only are in existence, in consequence of the order given by the government of Philip the Fourth to destroy the work, lest it should serve to guide the Portuguese into the heart of Peru. An old English translation of the narrative exists, though full of mistakes and interpolations.

To the present edition the public is indebted for a good translation, and a very introductory narrative.

Garcilasso's chronicle begins with the setting-out of Gonzalo Pizarro's expedition in 1539 from Cuzco, and an account of the preparations. Three hundred and forty soldiers did "the best lance in Spain" take with him, besides "four thousand Indians, laden with arms, supplies, and all things requisite for the service, such as iron, hatchets, knives, ropes, hempen cords, and large nails; likewise four thousand head of swine, and a flock of llamas, the latter carrying part of the baggage." Leaving Quito on Christmas-day, they commenced the passage of the Cordillera, the snow falling in such quantities that many of the Indians were frozen to death, and to escape from the cold "they left the swine and provisions behind them." The finding of cinnamon, "a tree with large leaves like a laurel," the hardships undergone from want of food and from incessant rain in the thick forests and swampy country round the Cuca, are next described, with the relation of a waterfall, "which made so great a noise that the Spaniards heard it at a distance of six leagues." One of them "wishing to look at the furious rush of water, became giddy and fell in." With much ado they bridged it, and then Gonzalo, finding the country full of lagoons and swamps, and no open road, determined to build a brigantine. The nails "they made from the shoes of horses which had been killed as food for the sick, and the rest of the iron they had brought" now "more valuable than gold." The leader was of the right heroic stuff:—

"Gonzalo Pizarro, as became so valiant a soldier, was the first to cut the wood, forge the iron, burn the charcoal, and employ himself in any other office, so as to give an example to the rest, that no one might have any excuse for not doing the same. For far, for the brigantine, they used resin from the trees; for oakum, they had blankets and old shirts; and all were ready to give up their clothes, because they believed that the remedy for all their misfortunes would be the brigantine."

The Chronicle goes on to state how Orellana was sent down the river in search of provisions, and did "a foul deed," deserting his commander, though Hernan Sanchez, "with the constancy of a true gentleman, insisted on being left behind, suffering hunger and other hardships, to give Gonzalo Pizarro a complete account of what Francisco de Orellana had done against his Captain-General." How the brave fellows endeavoured to make their way back to Quito, struggling with mighty rivers, morasses they could not wade through, and forests full of dense thorny foliage,—how they suffered from want of salt, "which in more than two hundred leagues they did not find,"—how their clothes rotted through the constant wet, and the heat made their nakedness unbearable,—how "the thorns and matted underwood cruelly tore them, and made

them look as if they had been flayed,"—and how, at last, "of three hundred and forty, eighty survived, the four thousand Indians all died of hunger." "On foot, without shoes, worn out and thin, so that they scarcely knew each other, they reached the borders of Quito," where, amid a throng of citizens who wept to see them again, they fell down, and "kissed the earth, giving thanks to God, who had delivered them." Herrera's narrative pursues the voyage of Orellana, his adventures among the Indians, the marvels he saw, and his discovery of the river Amazon. We have a description of the river Negro, "with water as black as ink, the force of which was so great that for more than twenty leagues its waters flowed separately." Then follows an encounter with certain "women, very tall, robust, fair, with long hair twisted over their heads, skins round their loins, and bows and arrows in their hands, with which they killed seven or eight Spaniards." These are the Amazons, whom Father Acuña, being a person "whom many considerations oblige to be accurate," describes more fully:—

"These manlike women have their abodes in great forests, and on lofty hills, amongst which, that which rises above the rest, and is therefore beaten by the winds for its pride, with most violence, so that it is bare and clear of vegetation, is called Yacaniaba. The Amazons are women of great valour, and they have always preserved themselves without the ordinary intercourse with men; and even when these, by agreement, come every year to their land, they receive them with arms in their hands, such as bows and arrows, which they brandish about for some time, until they are satisfied that the Indians come with peaceful intentions. They then drop their arms and go down to the canoes of their guests, where each one chooses the hammock that is nearest at hand (these being the beds in which they sleep); they then take them to their houses, and hanging them in a place where their owners will know them, they receive the Indians as guests for a few days. After this the Indians return to their own country, repeating these visits every year at the same season. The daughters who are born from this intercourse are preserved and brought up by the Amazons themselves, as they are destined to inherit their valour, and the customs of the nation, but it is not so certain what they do with the sons. An Indian, who had gone with his father to this country when very young, stated that the boys were given to their fathers, when they returned in the following year. But others, and this account appears to be most probable, as it is most general, say that when the Amazons find that a baby is a male, they kill it. Time will discover the truth, and if these are the Amazons made famous by historians, there are treasures shut up in their territory, which would enrich the whole world. The mouth of this river, on which the Amazons live, is in 24° of latitude."

With the exception of that marvellous adventure of Diego de Bribea and Andres Toledo, who sailed down the Napo, and reached Para in a canoe, the Portuguese expedition which Father Acuña accompanied was the most successful since the days of Pizarro.

Acuña seems to have been quite an intelligent and far-seeing person. He admiringly notes the cedars, the cotton-trees, and the iron-wood trees on the river, and the advantages the Amazon offers in the way of ship-building:—

"In this river vessels may be built better and at less cost than in any other country, finished and launched, without the necessity of sending anything from Europe, except iron for the nails. Here, as I have said, is timber; here are cables made from the bark of a certain tree, which will hold a ship in the heaviest gale; here is excellent pitch and tar; here is oil, as well vegetable as from fish; here they can make excellent oakum which they call *embira*, for caulking the ships, and also there is nothing better for the string of an arquebuss; here is cotton

for the sails; and here finally is a great multitude of people, so that there is nothing wanting, for building as many vessels as may be placed on the stocks."

Then there are the valuable products which would be sufficient to enrich not only one but many kingdoms; such as cocoa, tobacco, and sugar, besides cotton, "which is picked in abundance," the fruit of the cassia, the sarsaparilla, the oils which rival the best balsams, the gums and resins, the agave, whence the best cord is obtained. Of the native races, the Omaguas are the most intelligent, though they have an odd custom:—

"These Indians are so obedient to their principal chiefs, that a single word is sufficient to make them perform whatever they are ordered to do. They all have flattened heads, which causes ugliness in the men, but the women conceal it better with their abundant tresses. The custom of flattening their heads is so confirmed amongst them, that when the children are born they are placed in a press, a small board being secured on the forehead, and another one at the back of the head, so large as to serve as a cradle, and to receive the whole of the body of the new-born infant. The child is placed with its back upon the larger board, and secured so tightly to the other one, that the back and front of the head become as flat as the palm of the hand; and as these tightenings have the effect of making the head increase at the sides, it becomes deformed in such a way, that it looks more like an ill-shaped Bishop's mitre, than the head of a human being."

The narrowest part of the river is little more than a league wide,—a place, doubtless, which has been provided by divine Providence, so that a fortress may be built to impede the passage of any hostile armament of what force soever. In every respect the Amazon is "the phoenix of rivers"; in the good Father's eyes, "it only waits, in order to surpass" all others, that its source should be in Paradise.

*Cleomades: a Tale, transferred into Modern French Verse, from the old Dialect of Adenes le Roi, contemporary with Chaucer*—[*Cleomades, Conte, &c.*] By the Chevalier de Chatelain. (Pickering.)

CRITICS, commentators, annotators, editors, and antiquaries, have long been sorely puzzled as to the source whence Chaucer drew his 'Squieres Tale.' The story is not to be found,—so has hitherto circulated the report,—in any similar or other form in the literature of the Middle Ages. This, however, is a bold assertion, seeing that the Squire's story is not fully narrated. Milton himself has alluded to the brilliant and provoking fragment in his lines in the 'Penseroso':—

Or call up him that left half told  
The story of Cambuscan bold,  
Of Canabal, and of Algarisife,  
And who had Canace to wife,  
That own'd the virtuous ring and glass;  
And of the wonderous horse of brass,  
On which the Tartar king did ride.

As far as the story runs of Chaucer's Cambuscan, the Tartar king "that werryed Russy," it is but like a scene or two from an Easter piece. He is the husband of Eltheta, father of that Canace, described—

As rody and bright as is the yonge sonne  
That in the ram is ten degrees i-ronne.

Canace's two brothers are Algarisif and Camballo. Before this royal family and a splendid court there presenteth himself a knight mounted on a steed of brass, and bringing with him as gifts from the King of Araby and Ind, a glass mirror, a gold ring, and a naked sword. The description of these, and of Canace's pretty adventure in the garden, where she was enabled to understand the language of the birds by virtue of the wonderful ring which she wore on her finger, constitutes the sparkling fragment of this broken jewel. Among the promises of

what is to be told hereafter, the squire names the adventure

of Algarsif,  
How that he wan Theodora to his wif,  
For whom full ofte in grete peril he was,  
Ne had he ben holpen by the hors of bras.

This adventure has never been recounted, and the world has not only been disappointed of this episode in the annals of the house of Cambinskan, but has vainly sought for the source whence Chaucer was to derive the materials for this story. But the Chevalier de Chatelain has come forward to their enlightenment. He has discovered, as he thinks, the original poem, by the light of which the English poet walked a certain space, and proposed to walk further. At least, he has discovered a poem with a wonderful horse in it, the which, though it be but of wood, does, assuredly, bear a wonderful resemblance to the brazen courser of the Squire's half-told story.

The Chevalier has made this discovery in a manuscript work in the Library of the Arsenal, in Paris, by Adam or Adènes, surnamed *Le Roy*, as being chief, or king, of the minstrels in the service of Henry the Third, Duke of Brabant. The Duke Henry reigned from 1248 to 1261, and Adènes, who had been constantly near his person, passed subsequently into the service of Guy, Count of Flanders. The period of his death is not stated; but we learn that the plebeian Adam, wearing the crown of a minstrel king, sang, as long as he lived, the various excellencies of his numerous patrons. With the vices of the great, like a discreet minstrel, he would have nothing to do, and when there were no virtues to wake the echoes of his harp, he addressed himself to stringing rhymed romances. One of these is this same 'Cléomadès,' founded on one of the Spanish or Moresco legends brought from Spain by the widowed princess Blanche de France, to the court of her sister-in-law, the patroness of minstrels—charming Marie de Brabant. It is only necessary to premise that Chaucer lived and died a century later than tuneful King Adènes, his period being marked by the years, 1328—1400,—from Edward the Third to Henry the Fourth.

The question arises, whether this legend of 'Cléomadès' be the original from which Chaucer took the bronze horse of the Squire's story, and on which he intended to found the adventures of Algarsif and his dearly-won bride, Theodora. Adènes has recounted this adventure with remarkable spirit, and the Chevalier Chatelain has transferred it into modern French with considerable skill. In this ancient lay Cléomadès is a young prince, to the court of whose royal father come three kings, each with a magic gift, to woo and win the three sisters of the prince. Two of the lovers succeed. The third is a savage, hunch-backed, and highly-burlesque potentate, named King Croppart, who presents a wooden horse to the princess Maxima, and claims her hand in return. The lady looks on the hunch-back with horror, and on his steed with contempt; while Cléomadès gets astride the quiescent nag, as if to turn it and its master into ridicule. The turning of a spring, however, causes the charger to rise; and in a second, Prince Cléomadès is cutting through the clouds at the rate of 150 miles an hour!

This notice of the speed leads us to a comparison between the two horses. Here is the steed of the old Brabant minstrel:—

Avec ce cheval manivelle  
On peut s'élever dans les airs,  
Et traverser les vastes mers,  
Et faire, en tournant les chevilles,  
Par heure au moins trois fois cinquante milles.

So much for the old wooden Pegasus. Chaucer's brass horse of the succeeding century flies faster still:—

This steede of brass right ely and wel  
Can in the space of a day naturel,  
(That is to say in four and twenty houres)  
Wher so yow lust, in droughthe or in schoures,  
Beren your body into every place,  
To which your herte wilneth for to pace, &c.

The guidance of the aerial courser is the same in both cases; "en tournant les chevilles," with the wooden horse, while Chaucer's jockey is enabled to "torne agein with wrything of a pyn." But let us follow the rider. When young princes are carried off as Cléomadès is in the old romance, the anxiety of his friends may be intense, but it is always superfluous. As a matter of course, he discovers the means of descending; and, in the ordinary train of things, he finds himself in presence of a princess Claremonde, on whom, with the impudence of John Briggs, who married a fair lady under the false name of Elsiey Vavasour,—and who is described by the novelist as an honourable man!—he imposes himself as her affianced but hitherto unseen lover, Prince Liopatrius! Manifest are the accidents of the story, and the horse has hard work with it, and the Princess tells as many falsehoods as her audacious lover, before the *dénouement* comes,—when King Cloppart is finally disposed of, after very nearly triumphing over everybody, and Cléomadès and Claremonde are united, and the easy-going Liopatrius willingly finds consolation for his disappointment in accepting the doubly-willing and rather forward young lady, the rosy Maxima. The story is capitally told, and the details are joyously filled up by the "transferrer," who paints dashing, groups his figures with skill, lays on his colours rather warmly when he pictures a bevy of frolicsome young girls, or sleeping princesses and maids of honour; and who is particularly demonstrative of modesty when he is about to colour most highly, or suggest most significantly; and, finally, who is never in want of a rhyme, since, if he has not one that will serve, he boldly adopts one that does not. In every respect, however, this glowing little poem is worth the half-hour which may be devoted to its perusal.

What, however, will most interest the English reader is a comparison of the passages in which the Chevalier supposes that Chaucer has followed old Adènes. "After having described the three magical gifts," says the interpreter of the Brabant minstrel, "Adènes and Chaucer make exactly similar and varied observations, and place the same thoughtless reflections in the mouths of the people, on the three gifts and their manufacture." Here is a sample of things generally alike, with a certain difference:—

Gent de petit entendement  
Demandant à la fois comment  
Teles choses puent estre faites. . .  
Aucun en sont tout esbahi:  
Et savés vous que je leur di?  
Je leur dis que nigromancie  
Est moult merveilleuse clergie,  
Car mainte merveille en a on  
Faitte plaça, bien le set on.

Chaucer's honest folk are equally surprised, but express their surprise at somewhat greater length, as may be seen on reference to the Squire's tale, from line 10,512 to 10,576; within which limits the English poet says or sings:—

But evermore their moste wonder was  
How that it couthe goon and was of bras;  
It was of fayry, as the people semed,  
Diverse people diversly they demed:  
As many hedes, as many wittes been,  
They murmured as doth a swarm of been,  
And made skiles after their fantasies.

Thus janglen they, and demen, and devyse, &c.

If Chaucer was really acquainted with the poems of the minstrel of Brabant, which is very far from improbable, he made use of his knowledge as genius is accustomed to do, by turning it to brilliant account. His sketch of the horse, which, the Chevalier will have it, he

stole from the stable of Master Adam, is proof of the good use he would have made of the legend of 'Cléomadès,' by making it the canvas for his picture of the Prince Algarsif and his bride. At all events, the gentleman who has modernized and abridged Adam's long romance has rendered acceptable service, not only by the skilful execution of that not very easy task, but by the suggestions he has made as to Chaucer's acquaintance with the works of the older versifier. This acquaintance was not confined, it would seem, to the rhymed story which we have been considering; and M. de Chatelain quotes from the oddly-named romance of Adènes, 'Bert aus grans Piés,' a passage, the echoes of which seem to ring in the opening lines of Chaucer's general Prologue:—

A l'issue d'Avril, un tans dous et joll,  
Que herbelettes poignent et pré sont raverdi,  
A Paris la cité estoit un venredi,  
Pour ce qu'il est divernes, en mon cuer m'assenti  
Qu'à St. Denis iroie pour prier Dien merci.

When that Aprille with his showres swoote  
The drough of Marche hath perced to the roote,  
And bathed ev'ry veyne in swich licour,  
Of which vertue engendred is the flour:—  
When Zephyrus eke of his swete breath  
Esprideth hath in every holte and heeth  
The tendre croppes . . .  
Thanne longen folk . . . gon on pilgrimages.

And specially, from every schires ende  
Of Engelond, to Canturbury they wende,  
The holy blisful martir for to seke  
That hem hath holpen when that they were seke.

The images are here the same, the only difference being that the Cathedral of Canterbury takes place of the Cathedral of St. Denis,—and that the sketch of Adènes is developed into a large and graceful picture by Chaucer. Of both minstrels we take our leave, recommending our readers to make such acquaintance with the former as they are now enabled to do by the good offices of the Chevalier de Chatelain.

#### NEW NOVELS.

*Ebb and Flow: a Novel.* 3 vols. (Newby.)—The author of 'Ebb and Flow' has not put his name on the title-page, though in the last line of it he announces to the Continental world that he has reserved the right of translating the offspring of his genius; but no reader will fail to discern that in perusing 'Ebb and Flow' he is receiving instruction from Tittlebat Titmouse, anxious to wipe out the aspersions and misrepresentations which the pen of Mr. Samuel Warren has heaped upon his order. The glowing passages, indeed, in which he defends the cause of British footmen, and with pathetic earnestness inveighs against the ridicule which is too frequently showered upon their calves and dazzling liveries by heartless scoffers, taken by themselves would indicate that he was of "the plush;" but no young man, who had been for six weeks a menial in a respectable private family, could have been capable of making the egregious blunders which are the substance and savour of the domestic episodes in this eccentric work. There can be no question as to the social position of this "Great Unknown." There is abundant internal evidence of what it is in every chapter of the three volumes;—in the author's firm belief that black cloth is the only attire fit for a gentleman, and that "struggling young tradesmen" are infinitely superior to "Oxford scholars" in his fervent admiration of "heavy watchguards," "jewelled rings," "massive pins," "patent-leather boots," and "smart ties;" in his adoration of "commercial travellers in a superior way," "correct gentlemen," and "young Londoners;" in his deep sense of the "overawing effects of dress," and in his descriptions of "clipping excursions to Richmond, Hampton Court, and Windsor." Slang taken from the club-rooms of "betting men," and vulgarity copied from *Bell's Life*, are thrown broadcast over every paragraph. Of the incidents and *dramatis personæ* there is little need to speak. In an inexplicable confusion of digressions within digressions the reader becomes acquainted with the hero of the piece, an Oxford-street grocer, named



James Smith; with the "heavy father"—John Elmsley, Esq.,—a London tradesman living as a country gentleman in Berkshire, and making his first appearance on a sweltering July day, "dressed in black, but having the air of a tradesman completely;" with the two heroines Julia and Agnes Elmsley, young ladies liable to make mistakes in their spelling, "especially in their final s's," and incessantly occupied with "stiffing their emotions" or "restraining their titters" or "applying kerchiefs to their eyes;" with Mrs. Elmsley—"well, *even expensively dressed*;" and with the three villains of the piece—viz., Mr. Zaccheus Chapman, a country solicitor, who, on supping at a gentleman's house, is described "as greatly embarrassed from having taken on his plate a leg of cold fowl, and not *knowing very well what to do with the bones*"; Mr. Edgar Fielding, whose father is an astounding hybrid, worthy of taking rank with the Feejee Mermaid and the Woolly Horse, being nothing less than "a gentleman farmer," and head of "a county family"; and William Elmsley, first B.A. and then M.A. of Oxford, a sad scoundrel, who poisons his own brother and seizes his estate. In dealing with this last-mentioned gentleman the author displays a malevolence, not only towards him, but to all who have been educated at our Universities, that seems as if a family feud against a fortunate cousin, who prefers being a curate to dealing out sugar behind a counter, were being carried on under the disguise of a work of prose fiction. Indeed, our satiric writer has no mercy on M.A.'s and B.A.'s (as he terms them), but speaks of them as a class of beings with distinctive characteristics, external as well as internal, wearing "suits of black pertaining to the clerical," and to be detected at a glance, like coal-whippers or policemen. But next to putting credulous people on their guard against designing Oxford graduates, the grand object of Mr. Titmouse is to demonstrate the vast superiority of "Londoners" over country people, in respect of "smartness" and the faculty of keeping "wide awake" under any circumstances, and to proclaim the glories of London—"mighty London, with its gas and carriages!" as the first emporium in the world for "moderate lamps" and "ansome furniture." Although we cannot follow Mr. Titmouse through his seductions, murders, dreams, ghost-stories, railway accidents, and thunderstorms, we may show the reader what "a smart young Londoner" regards as a brilliant literary style. We cannot, from want of space, reprint that noble opening chapter where "Phœbus" is mentioned "as sinking into the west," or the page which is adorned with the favourite misquotation from Cowper, "the *cup* which cheers but not inebriates"; nor can we enumerate all "the palpable hits" which the principal characters make in conversation, or the hospitable invitations which they send to and fro under the name of "invites." But still a little of a good thing is worth having. Here is a touching picture of a despairing lover:—"If, as told at the conclusion of our last chapter, his home seemed dull and cheerless to him before, it may easily be conceived that it was not improved in his eyes by the recent announcement, and while sitting at his solitary supper, he could not help conjuring up a vision of Julia sweeping through his rooms, brightening and cheering everything; *how enhanced would his bread and cheese and celery have been, had she but been there to share it with him!*" Now for something of a more prosaic tone. "Why, yes, mum," replied the good lady, 'ahem; there's that little affair that I went about, mum; but, perhaps, you are ageing up-stairs to dress, and we can talk it over there. I didn't let it go, because I didn't think he offered enough.'—"Oh!" ejaculated Julia, pale no longer, as the perception of the landlady's meaning rushed upon her, for in her excitement she had forgotten all about the watch. 'You were quite right, Mrs. Harrison; I am going up-stairs, and shall be glad to hear what you have done.' Then, with a few words to Smith, she quitted the room; he, on his part, proffering to procure a cab by the time she was ready. *This offer or promise he redeemed, and something more, having, indeed, to allow the cabman one shilling, besides a glass of gin-and-milk at the nearest public-*

*house, on account of the delay ere the lady made her appearance.* At last she came out, and with a swift step crossed the pavement, and entered the vehicle." Referring the curious student to the description of old Mr. Smith's cruelty to his son, and the mode by which "the proverbially flinty heart of a father" was on that occasion softened, as a triumph of artistic narrative, we conclude our extracts with a brief sketch of a moonlight scene, and its effect on a middle-aged gentleman as he was driving home in a pony-phæton from a public dinner:—"The road was clear and distinct as at noon-day; everything was so bright in the splendour of the moonbeams, that even King's Arms [*i.e.*, the pony] seemed unusually alert, and executed several decided frisks and capers, while Mr. Elmsley felt inclined to try a song. But, as he thought of it, the beauty of the night sank more deeply into his soul; the hush and silence of the wide plain they were traversing became almost solemn, and as the road wound under a knoll, or 'barrow,' in whose shade they lost for an instant the lustre of the moon, he felt that it would be akin to sacrilege to sing there—*save, indeed, he sang a hymn!*"

## OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*The Gentleman's Stable Manual.* By William Haycock. Illustrated with highly-finished Wood Engravings. (Routledge & Co.)—If a horse were the Light of the World, or Cleopatra, or Diana of the Rhone, he might be flattered by the sumptuous array of precautions here catalogued for his worldly benefit. If to be petted, nursed, fed, clothed, housed, medicined, watched and tended, is to be secure of health and prosperity, certainly the "noble animal," whether a hunter or between cab-shafts, has been considerably treated by Mr. Haycock. The construction of his stable, the nature and administration of his food, his grooming when sick, his general hygiene, his shoeing, his customary diseases and accidents,—all are discussed with scientific, not to say affectionate, elaboration; and the result is, that the man-ridden species appears to be deemed of a godlike quality, after all. For is there in existence a treatise so learned upon model cottages and the ordinary requirements of humanity? It may be so; but Mr. Haycock, who is nothing if not veterinary, writes in grand unconsciousness of all on this earth external to horses. In their behalf he quotes the wise, and searches nature; and we have no doubt but that a large class of persons will gladly possess the book. For it is a shame, without question, to have a horse and, ignorantly or otherwise, to misuse it. Very many, misled by superficial observation, have been tender where they might have been rough, and rough where they should have been tender. Mr. Haycock sets forth the truth of the matter in a theory, exemplified by apt quotations of practice; and, bearing in view the cardinal points of his teaching, we may rank him as agreeing with the historically alliterative oster: "It is not the 'unting that 'urts a 'orse; it's the 'ard 'ighway; it's the 'ammering, 'ammering, 'ammering over a 'ard 'ighway; it 'urts 'is 'ooves. When you are not a going to 'unt, 'ire a 'ack, and 'ammer along with 'im." This is sound philosophy, for everyday application, and is justified by Mr. Haycock's treatise. Altogether, few works have appeared more comprehensive or more simple. Generally speaking, it addresses itself to those who keep a number of horses, with costly establishments, rather than to such persons as are satisfied with one; but all who care to understand the constitution and management of horses, will find in Mr. Haycock a most intelligent and interesting instructor.

*The Boy's Birthday Book: a Collection of Tales, Essays and Narratives of Adventure.* By Mrs. S. C. Hall, William Howitt, Augustus Mayhew, Thomas Miller, and George Augustus Sala. Illustrated with nearly one hundred original engravings. (Houlston & Wright).—"Bravo! Hurrah! Three cheers for the Boy's Birthday!" Such is the greeting which this work receives from the heroes of the school-form and the playground. They have braved the perils of Mont Blanc, trembled at the

capture of the alligators, gone into the bush with Nipper and Toby, chased the lions with Gordon Cumming and M. Gérard, and listened attentively to the stories of Grandfather Pigtail and Uncle Jack. So well do they like the entertainment provided for them by their good hosts, that they would have no objection to a quarterly return of the birthday fare.

*The Slave's Champion; or, the Life, Deeds and Historical Days of William Wilberforce.* Written in Commemoration of the Centenary of his Birthday. To which is appended, an Account of the Keeping of the Twenty-fifth Birthday of Freedom.—By the Author of 'The Popular Harmony of the Bible.' (Seeleys).—This record of the life, deeds, and historical days of Wilberforce bears as much proportion to the size of the volume in which it is related as a mummy does to the sarcophagus in which it is inclosed. Here are in all 168 pages of small type, from which we have disinterred the champion of freedom, and find that he was enveloped in no less than thirty-eight pages of introduction and upwards of sixty of conclusion; so that the name has evidently been used as a peg on which to hang a rambling kind of sermon, and as the vehicle of some reprints from the daily journals of the 1st of August.

*Tales of the Martyrs of the First Two Centuries.* By the Rev. B. H. Cowper. (Published by the Book Society).—We are, generally speaking, as much inclined to read of the sufferings of the martyrs as we are disposed to spend a dull hour in the Chamber of Horrors, or to drive away melancholy by learning a chapter of the Newgate Calendar. These tales, however, are less horrible than many others on the same subject; and although we cannot own that we have been "amused," as the author hoped we should be, we may yet admit that we have been interested.

*Walks, Talks, Travels, and Exploits of Two School-boys: a Book for Boys.* By the Rev. J. C. Atkinson. (Routledge & Co.)—Here are upwards of four hundred pages of tolerably close type in which the author has given some interesting accounts of the habits of birds, beasts, and fishes. But his style wants that vigour which another reverend writer said might be acquired by running the pen through every other word.

*Fur and Feathers.* By F. Frederick Brandt. (Hope).—Mr. Brandt has succeeded in laying before his readers such information respecting the Game Laws as is indispensable to the country gentleman and the sportsman. The diction is easy, and devoid of those technicalities which generally present such stumbling-blocks to the uninitiated.

*Edith Grey; or Ten Years ago.* By Charlotte Bonomi. Dedicated to the young female Protestants of England. (Hall, Virtue & Co.)—We cannot better explain the purpose of this tale than by quoting the Preface, wherein the authoress says "This little work has been considered likely to be useful to those who are seldom spoken to upon the subject of opposing creeds, and who are consequently open to the misleadings of Rome; their studies not being calculated to enable them to unravel the mystery and mysticism too often prepared for them in the present day, under the guise of tales and novels." We need merely remark, that the authoress has been at some pains to refute the doctrines of the Romish Church, and that she has acquitted herself of her self-imposed task with patience and ability.

The reprints of the last few days are of unusual interest. First among them in readable value are,—*The Queen of Hearts*, by Wilkie Collins (Hurst & Blackett), from the pages of 'Household Words,'—*Under Bow Bells*, by John Hollingshead (Groombridge), from the same serial,—and *Twice Round the Clock; or, the Hours of the Day and Night in London*, by G. Augustus Sala (Houlston & Wright), from 'The Welcome Guest.' The papers of which these volumes consist have already enjoyed an extensive circulation, and a popularity equal to their circulation. Mr. Wilkie Collins and Mr. G. A. Sala our readers know; Mr. Hollingshead is a young writer who has still his fame to win. Our recommendation may, therefore, be of service to him, and we give it with all our heart. So effective a first appearance in letters as 'Under Bow Bells' is



rare. Who does not remember 'The City of Unlimited Paper'? Who the 'End of Fordyce Brothers'? Mr. Hollingshead will certainly be heard of again.—After these reprints we take up a reprint of *The Shakespeare Papers*, by the late Dr. Maginn (Bentley), from *Bentley's Magazine*, with a disjointed and foolish preface.—*Erin-go-Bragh*, by W. H. Maxwell (Bentley).—*Falconry: its Claims, History, and Practice*, by G. E. Freeman and F. H. Salvin, chiefly from the *Field*.—*Papers on Teaching, and Kindred Subjects*, by the Rev. W. Ross (Longmans).—and, from 'Fraser's Magazine,' *Sword and Gown*, by the Author of 'Guy Livingstone' (Parker).—The new editions consist of Mr. Cooper's novels of *The Red Rover*, *The Last of the Mohicans*, *The Pilot*, and *The Wept of Wish-ton-Wish* (New York, Townsends & Co.).—*Smugglers and Foresters*, by Mary R. Skettell (Hodgson).—*Jonathan Oldaker*, by J. C. Wilson (Ward & Lock).—*Echoes from the Backwoods*, by Sir R. G. A. Levinge (Routledge).—and Vol. XI. of *The Parent's Cabinet* (Smith, Elder & Co.).—Translations comprise Vol. II. of Dr. Winer's *Grammar of the New Testament Diction*, translated by Prof. E. Masson (Hamilton).—and *Echoes of Eternity*, by Henrietta J. Fry (Bath, Binns & Godwin).—Of second editions, we have *Private Bill Legislation*, by S. B. Bristowe, Esq. (Knight).—*The Soldier Spiritualised* (Partridge).—*Dates in Daniel and the Revelation*, by Mr. Eyton (Houlston).—and the Rev. E. H. Bickersteth's *Psalmody* (Dean).—Of third editions, *The Epidemics of the Middle Ages*, by Dr. Hecker (Trübner).—and *The Bye-Lanes and Downs of England*, by Sylvanus (Bentley).—Of fourth editions, *Glaucus; or, the Wonders of the Shore*, by C. Kingsley (Macmillan).—Dr. Lee on *Homoeopathy and Hydropathy* (Churchill).—*Diseases of the Skin*, by T. Hunt (Richards).—Dr. Smith on *The Law of Banking* (Wilson).—*Poems*, by John Nicholson, edited by W. Dearden (Young).—and the eighth edition of Mr. Gawthorpe's *Arithmetical and Geographical Tables* (Routledge).

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Account of Grand Parties given by the Lion, &c., royal 8vo. 3s. 6d.  
All the Year Round, by Dickens, Vol. I., royal 8vo. 5s. 6d. cl.  
Arnold's Introduction to Greek Prose Composition, Part I., 8vo. 6d.  
Autobiography of a Beggar Boy, 4th edit., 12mo. 1s. 6d. bds.  
Bach's *Chorale*, in Roman Character, with Vocabulary, cr. 8vo. 5s.  
Bayne's Christian Life, Social and Individual, new ed. 7s. 6d. cl.  
Brace's Geography & Astronomy, with Use of Globes, 12th ed. 5s.  
Brace's Use of the Globes, 12th ed. 2s. 6d. cl.  
Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress, illust. by Bennett, sq. 8vo. 3s. 6d.  
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De Porquet's New Parisian Grammar, 25th ed. 12mo. 2s. 6d. cl.  
De Porquet's Modern Parisian Phraseology, 27th ed. 12mo. 2s. 6d.  
Dennau's Class-Book of English Prose, Parts I. and 2., 2s. 6d. each.  
De Vivar's Grammar of French Grammar, 18th ed. 12mo. 3s. 6d.  
De Vivar's *Revue des Ecritures Francaises*, 9th edit. 12mo. 3s. 6d.  
Edgeworth's Parents' Assistant, new edit. 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.  
Enrich's Latin-Eng. Dictionary, new edit. by Carey, sq. 8vo. 5s. 6d. bds.  
Errors of the Church of Rome, a Chapter, 2d. 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.  
Forbes's Dictionary, Hindustani and English, Romanised, 36s. cl.  
Forbes's Beach Rambles in Search of Pebbles and Crystals, 5s. cl.  
Graduated Reading Lesson Books, Book 4, 12mo. 2s. 6d. cl.  
Grattan's Civilized America, 2nd edit. 2 vols. 8vo. 2s. cl.  
Haste to the Rescue; or, Work while it is Day, 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.  
Herbert's Poetical Works, new edit. 3 vols. 8vo. 5s. cl.  
Hollingshead's Under Bow Bells, post 8vo. 6s. cl.  
Hook's Gervase Skinner, new edit. 8vo. 2s. bds.  
Hooke's The Lady's Tamil-Book, in Romanised Tamil, 8vo. 4s. bds.  
Killer's The Ancient Church, its History, Doctrine, &c., 8vo. 12s.  
Kingsley's Miscellanies, from *Fraser*, &c., 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 18s. cl.  
Kingsley's Will Weatherhill, illust. 8vo. 5s. cl.  
Kirk's Parables of Our Saviour, Preface, by M'Oris, 12mo. 3s. 6d.  
Little Lucy's Six Birthdays, &c., new edit. 8vo. 4s. 6d. cl.  
Livsey's Rocks and Shoals, 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 2s. cl.  
Manual of General History, trans. by Atwell, 8vo. 2s. 6d. cl.  
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Our Heavenly Home, by the Author of 'God is Love,' &c., 5s. cl.  
Parker's Bentley Priory, 3 vols. post 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.  
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Statutes at Large, The Vol. 24, Part 3, 22 & 23 Vict., 4to. 12s. 6d.  
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Useful Library, 'Tricks of Trade,' new edit. 8vo. 1s. bds.  
Welcome Guest (The), Vol. 2, First Series, 4to. 5s. cl.  
Wicks's Spires of Medieval Churches of England, folio, 4l. 14s. 6d.

[ADVERTISEMENT.]—Shortly will be published, price 2s. 6d., THE LITERARY AND EDUCATIONAL YEAR-BOOK, for 1860. It will contain Catalogues of British, American, and Foreign Books published in 1859—List of Works published by the Commissioners of Patents for Inventions—List of Parliamentary Papers and Blue-Books published in 1859—List of the New Engravings, Maps, and Diagrams published in 1859—Lists of the London and Provincial Newspapers—Lists of the Weekly, Monthly, and Quarterly Periodicals—Lists of the Professional and Gratuitous Lecturers of the Country—An Account of the Scientific and Artistic Societies of the Metropolis—Lists of the Science and Art Schools, Mechanics' and Literary Institutions, Public Libraries, Reading-rooms, Working-Men's Societies, Young Men's Christian Associations, County

Associations, Book-Lending Libraries, Itinerating Libraries, &c., of the Country—Lists of the Grammar Schools and Training Institutions of the Country—an Obituary for 1859, and a great variety of other information.—London: KENT & Co. Paternoster Row and Fleet Street.

## THE GEOLOGY OF NEW ZEALAND.

It will probably be remembered that a Scientific Expedition round the world, in the frigate *Novara*, was organized and despatched about a year ago by the Austrian Government. Among the scientific officers appointed was Dr. Ferdinand Hochstetter, a geologist of great eminence; and it appears that when the *Novara* touched and remained for a few days at New Zealand, Dr. Hochstetter was so much struck by the peculiarities and interesting geological features of that country, that he applied for and obtained permission to remain six months in that island, in order that he might investigate its geology at his leisure, and especially that of the province of Auckland.

The result, in the form of a Lecture delivered at Auckland, is now before us, the substance having been printed by order of the New Zealand Government, and published in their official *Gazette*. Dr. Hochstetter has evidently devoted much time and labour to the survey which he undertook; and he states that his investigations were considerably aided by the liberality and excellent arrangements of the Government, which enabled him to travel over and examine the larger portion of the province of Auckland with comparative ease and immunity from danger; for it is worthy of remark, that the great volcanoes and active igneous regions of New Zealand are regarded as sacred ground by the natives. The grand volcano of Tongariro is believed to be the backbone and head of the giant ancestor of the New Zealanders, and they do all in their power to prevent the curious traveller profaning, as they deem it, the sacred cone of this mountain.

The first striking characteristic of the geology of Auckland, according to Dr. Hochstetter, is the absence of the primitive plutonic and metamorphic formations. The oldest rock that he met with belongs to the primary formation. It is of very variable character, sometimes being more argillaceous and of a dark colour, more or less distinctly stratified, like clay-slate; at other times the siliceous element preponderates, and from the admixture of oxide of iron the rock has a red jasper-like appearance. No fossils have hitherto been found in this formation in New Zealand, and, therefore it is impossible to state the exact age; it is probable, however, that these argillaceous siliceous rocks correspond to the oldest Silurian strata of Europe. The existence and great area of this formation are of great importance, as all the metalliferous veins hitherto discovered in Auckland, or likely to be found, occur in rocks of this formation.

To these rocks belong the copper-pyrites which have been worked for some years, the manganese, and the gold-bearing quartz at Coromandel. The gold which is washed out from beds of quartz-gravel on both sides of the Coromandel range, is derived from quartz veins of crystalline character and considerable thickness, running in a general direction from north to south through the old primary rocks, which form the foundation of the Coromandel range.

The magnetic iron-sand, which in washing is found with the gold, is derived from the same source as all the magnetic iron-sand of New Zealand, namely from the decomposition of trachytic rocks. Small veins of quartz, of amorphous character,—that is, not crystalline, but in the shape of chalcedony, cornelian, agate, and jasper—are found in numerous places on the shore of Coromandel. These veins, occurring in trachytic rocks, are quite different from the auriferous quartz veins in the primary formation,—a fact of much practical importance, the knowledge of which will prevent a fruitless search for gold when this precious metal does not exist. All the gold-bearing gravel in the creeks is derived from the crystalline veins in the primary rocks. The surface deposit in those creeks is very rich, but, as compared with the Australian and Californian gold-fields, of very limited extent and depth. Still, Dr. Hochstetter is of opinion

from the specimens that he found, that when the Coromandel gold-fields are worked, the "digger" should direct his attention to the hills above any rich deposit as well as to the alluvial working below.

The coal-beds at Coromandel occurring between strata of trachytic breccia are too thin to be of any value, and there is no reason to suppose that a workable seam exists. Nearly all the primary ranges are covered with dense virgin forests, rendering them extremely difficult of access, but there is every reason to believe that they will yield considerable mineral riches. It is remarkable, that while one of the oldest members of the primary formation is found so extensively in New Zealand, the later strata of the Devonian, Carboniferous, and Permian system, appear to be altogether wanting; while, on the other hand, in the neighbouring continent of Australia, these members of the primary period, together with plutonic and metamorphic rocks, constitute, so far as we know, almost the principal part of the continent.

A very wide interval occurs between the primary rocks of the Northern Island and the next sedimentary strata. Not only the upper members of the primary series are absent; but also nearly the whole of the secondary formations. The only instance of secondary strata met with by Dr. Hochstetter consists of a very regular and highly inclined bed of marl, alternating with micaceous sandstone, extending to a thickness of more than 1,000 feet. These rocks contain remarkable specimens of marine fossils, which belong exclusively to the secondary period.

The tertiary period must be divided into two distinct formations, which may, perhaps, correspond to the European Eocene and Miocene. The older of these formations contains the brown-coal seams, on the skillful working of which much of the future welfare of the province depends. The seam, which is of great extent, consists, near Auckland, of three portions: the upper part, a laminated coal of inferior quality, 1 foot thick; then a band of shale, 2 inches; next, a band of bituminous shale, 6 inches; and the lowest part, 2½ feet of coal, of the best quality that Dr. Hochstetter has seen.

Several other coal-fields exist, one already worked by a company. Analysis shows that New Zealand coal is well adapted for gas, for though the quantity of gas produced is not large, it is of very high quality, approaching several of the Scotch canals in illuminating power. The coke is of very inferior quality for heating purposes; but the proportion of iron found in it is so large that it may possibly turn out to be a product of value. Dr. Hochstetter cannot see why this brown coal should not be extensively used in New Zealand as fuel for manufactories of all kinds, for locomotives and steamers and for domestic purposes. He strongly recommends that any company formed for working the coal should, at the same time, establish potteries for the manufacture of earthenware, as suitable clays, for all purposes, exist in the immediate neighbourhood of the coal-fields. The famous Bohemian porcelain is burnt by means of brown coal, similar to that existing in New Zealand.

Dr. Hochstetter explored the remarkable limestone caverns at Hangatiki, near the sources of the Waipa, the former haunts of the gigantic Moa. He expected to meet with a rich harvest of Moa skeletons, but only found a few bones. The natives, according to his account, have long since carefully collected and stowed away, in safe hiding-places, all the Moa bones, in consequence of the value attached to them by Europeans, but they are willing to exchange them for money.

The volcanic formations in New Zealand are on a vast scale. Lofty trachytic peaks covered with perpetual snow, a great variety of smaller volcanic cones, presenting all the characteristics of volcanic systems, and long lines of boiling springs, fumaroles and solfatarae, present an almost unbounded field of interest, and, at the same time, a succession of magnificent scenery.

The first volcanic eruptions were submarine, consisting of vast quantities of lava, breccia, tuff, obsidian and pumice-stone, which, flowing over the bottom of the sea, formed an extensive submarine

volcanic plateau. Subsequent eruptions formed lofty cones of trachytic and phonolithic lava. Thus, in the central part of the Northern Island an extensive volcanic plateau exists, 2,000 feet high, from which rise the two gigantic mountains, Tongariro and Ruapahu. From the former smoke constantly issues, and the shape of the cone is changing, thus showing continual volcanic activity. A grand impression is made upon the traveller by these two magnificent volcanic cones; Ruapahu shining with the brilliancy of perpetual snow, — Tongariro with its black cinder cone capped with a cloud of white vapour, — the two majestic mountains standing side by side upon a barren desert of pumice and reflected in the waters of Lake Taupo.

In immediate connexion with the volcanoes are the hot springs, solfataras and fumaroles. In Iceland only are such a number of hot springs found as exist in New Zealand. Although there may be no single intermittent spring in New Zealand of equal magnitude with the great Geyser in Iceland, yet in the extent of country in which such springs occur, in their great number, and in the beauty and variety of the siliceous incrustations and deposits, New Zealand far exceeds Iceland. All the New Zealand hot springs, like those of Iceland, abound in silica, and may be divided into two distinct classes — alkaline and acid. To the latter belong the solfataras, characterized by deposits of sulphur, and never forming intermittent fountains. All the intermittent springs belong to the alkaline class, in which are also included most of the ordinary boiling springs. Sulphurets of sodium and potassium, and carbonates of potash and soda are the solvents of the silica, which, on the cooling and evaporation of the water, is deposited in such quantities as to form a striking characteristic in the appearance of these springs.

Dr. Hochstetter's Geological Map of the Auckland District contains no less than sixty points of volcanic eruption within a radius of ten miles. The isthmus of Auckland is, in fact, completely perforated by volcanic action, and presents a large number of true volcanic hills, which, although extinct and of small size, are perfect models of volcanic mountains. These hills — once the funnels out of which torrents of burning lava were vomited forth, and afterwards the strongholds of savage cannibals — are now picturesque and pleasing features, being the homes of peaceful and prosperous settlers, whose fruitful gardens and smiling fields derive their fertility from the substances long ago thrown up from the fiery bowels of the earth. For though active volcanoes can only be regarded as serious present calamities by the people who live within their influence, they must not be considered as permanent or unmixed evils. The most fertile districts in the neighbourhood of Naples are composed of volcanic soil, and the now barren area covered with lava and scorise, from which rise the stupendous cones of Tongariro and Ruapahu in New Zealand, will assuredly some day teem with fertility and abundance.

Volcanic action in New Zealand is, according to Dr. Hochstetter, dying out. Numerous facts, he states, prove that the action which gives rise to the hot springs is diminishing; and thus, although some persons, looking at that country in a geological point of view, conceive that European settlers have arrived there "a thousand years too soon," yet there is evidently an ample range for agricultural enterprise in those regions where volcanic agency has entirely died out.

#### TREASURE-TROVE IN IRELAND.

Dublin, October 7.

Having been informed within a few days, by a visitor to this Museum, whose statement appeared to me to be reliable, as its details were all consistent with each other, and corroborated by other facts which my informant could not know, that a large quantity of ancient gold articles, found recently in Ireland, are weekly finding their way to the melting-pot in London, I would beg, through your columns, to call the attention of the parties who are purchasing this gold, to the great injury they are inflicting on Archaeology by the course they are adopting, unless, indeed, they are making drawings

and analyses of the various articles, particularly the larger ones, which are being destroyed.

As the chief executioner of these ancient reliques is said to be a member of several antiquarian societies in England, it may be hoped this suggestion may be late, as he may have adopted the hint here proposed already; but if he has not, I would, on the part of persons taking an interest in Irish archaeology, entreat of him to make such memoranda of the things already destroyed, the things passing through his hands, and the things he expects to get from the same party from whom he has got so much already, that hereafter, when the law of treasure-trove is repealed in Ireland and England, we may have a sufficient record of this great find.

It is really too bad that the law of the land is such that it fails altogether to save to the Crown or the finder the value of the treasure-trove found in Ireland, while it almost of necessity insures the destruction of things found, provided their quantity is considerable. In the present case, the find appears to have been very large, and the care of the party finding it most judicious in keeping his secret; but, generally, the secret is kept so well as to the locality, that those who look to these finds only as archaeological facts, may seldom get at the real truth of their discovery.

I may mention one example of this kind, the great gold-find in the neighbourhood of Athlone, which realized over 27,000*l.*, as appeared from the several sums of money paid by different goldsmiths in Dublin, who, within a period of six months, admitted to Dr. Petrie that they had made purchases of this gold to that amount. Dr. Petrie and others have for years back endeavoured to ascertain the locality of this find, and were disposed to place it on an island in the Shannon; but from other evidence, obtained by accident, it would appear now that the discovery was not made within seven miles of the place to which attention had been directed.

This great find was lost to science, and I fear the one now following on the course of so many others will also be lost, if the parties interested in utilizing this gold keep no memorial of its specialities. One point I would insist on is the preservation of actual impressions of any designs or inscriptions which may be on these gold articles, for either or both may solve the question as to the nationality and antiquity of the gold articles found in Ireland.

I have good reason to believe that a large gold breastplate, with inscriptions on it, has been found lately in Ireland, and it may be a part of this find; if so, it is to be hoped that this notice may save its inscriptions from loss. We want Irish gold antiquities with genuine inscriptions on them.

I may venture to add to this letter, that the facts above referred to lead to the conclusion, that the true course to be taken by the Government and the public, to insure the preservation of gold antiquities and treasure-trove generally, is to allow perfect freedom of trade in these things, as if they were modern; except in the *Hall-mark*, which should not be impressed on anything said to be ancient, save on the declaration of the licensed gold or silver smith owning it, and that such should not be allowed to deal in treasure-trove, except it were stamped as such, unless the things were very small, or would be spoiled in the operation.

E. CLIBBORN, Curator Museum R.I.A.

#### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Toulouse, October.

I have been much struck with the Church of St. Sernin (Saturnin) at Toulouse. An interior at once more grand and more complete in the Romanesque style does not occur to me; — grand in the dimensions of its long nave, ample transepts, — in the mystery and complication of its dark, double side-aisles, in the loftiness of its triforium, and in a solidity and simplicity of style, from which judicious restoration would easily rescue the reproach of chilly nakedness, at present to be laid against it. — The church is built of warm-coloured brick and stone, — possibly with admixtures of the Pyrenean marble, so lavishly used as material in this

part of France. Mere removal of the wash or plaster with which it is daubed inside and out, with reparation of crumbled portions, might give a result of colour as welcome to the eye, when the eye is in a warm humour, as is the sober grey of the Cathedral at Tournay to those who may be more Quakerish in their predilections. Years ago a word was said on the happy effect of such treatment as shown in the Church of St. Andrew at Vercelli. — The enrichment of painted glass, which is creeping back into every church in France, would add splendour to any amount. — The solemn and dark crypt, rich in reliquaries and silver caskets gleaming through the gloom of its low vaults and heavy pillars, has been furnished up with that outrageous *badigon*, which is also now too prevalent in this country. Fortunately, the extreme darkness casts a benevolent veil over that crudity and bad colour, which seems the rule of Gallic attempts at polychromy. — Then, the outside of this noble building is striking. The west front is made various by a happy arrangement of its few well-proportioned features. The eastern end is florid in right of its coronal of circular apsidal chapels; as complete an example of this form of composition as exists. A few architectural touches, — inexpressive, seeing that no decoration is required, — and a thorough clearing away of the surface, would entitle the edifice by its outside, no less than its interior, to an august place among the brick churches of the South. The octagonal tower of many stories is, perhaps, the most noticeable one of its material, short of the more famous turret of Cremona: the slight difference of style in the upper diminishing stories, where angular lines replace circular ones, gives lightness without obtrusive discord.

As a whole, the brick architecture of Toulouse has been less kindly regarded than it deserves. Besides this Church of St. Sernin there are others less important, which (with towers in the same style) help to make up a characteristic group. The front of the lofty Church of the Cordeliers — now a store-house for military forage, into which the meekest British lover of old buildings is not permitted to pry, — is grand with its simple rose-window, and its three-sided stone portal of more modern date. Up and down the streets, too, may be found picturesque examples of the use of the same material, which, like the specimens, as far asunder in taste as in country as those I have admired in Friesland, suggest experiments, though not of course direct imitation, to modern architects. In Toulouse this warm brick colour is as relishing as it is in North Holland, though for totally opposite reasons. The eye has become tired with the white and grey in which the mountain towns are dressed. How welcome is the mellow brown of the brick tower of the *Château* at Pau as a piece of colour! Where there is so much blue in the sky — so much grey when the weather lowers — so much green on the mountain sides — something of warmth becomes eminently attractive as corrective and balance.

Other churches, again, in Toulouse are pictorial in their indefensible way. The Cathedral, where nothing matches anything, — since, literally, half the people in the nave must pray and praise round the corner when the rite is going on in the choir; — the Church of St. Taur, with its lofty frontispiece, and its dim corrupt chapels on either side the high altar, are both worth an artist's glance; — though neither has been built on noble, as distinct from "base" principles, nor has been decorated (to quote Goldsmith) on the principle of the Pyramid.

A word more — after leaving Toulouse. A run along the rail to Bordeaux did its part in rivetting the conviction, that France, whether as a picturesque country, or as one in a state of rapid development, has to be studied anew in detail. Enterprise is disclosing many objects so hidden as to have been generally unknown. The plain through which the Upper Garonne and Lot run, acquires here and there a valley character, from chains of hillock and heights, the rocks of which are swathed with vines, or tufted with wood — though the wood will hardly pass for trees to those who have been enjoying the oaks and pines and grand planes of the Pyrenees. The tall, tiled vine-dressers' houses, built with a peculiar half gable, many with a low heavy arcade before



them,—the small cemeteries sleeping in the sun, with their obelisks of cypress,—hard by some lowly old chapel, with its pierced gable wall for belfry, as primitive as if it belonged to Llanberis, not Langue-doc,—the remains of more orderly architecture, such as catch the eye in hurrying through places like Moissac and Malaucze, and Porte Ste. Marie,—combine to leave a pleasing impression, distinct from anything German, or Italian, or Norman, or Champenois, tempting those of a peculiar temperament to return and loiter. Curious and characteristic it is, too, (charming it will be to all such as delight in M. Capefigue's favourite "institution,") to observe that, go where one will in France, the Royal Mistress has left traces, only less many and rich, than those left by the Monk. After Diana de Poitiers and Agnes Sorel, and the Mancini women, and the Maintenons, come signs and tokens of the Pompadours and Du Barris—on this very road, for instance, at Aigillon, the depraved yet pompous-looking *Château*, commenced (and, mark the moral! only half finished) by the creature of Jeanne Vaubernier:—perhaps the very last relic of the glorious days of "the right divine of kings" in France! C.

Naples, October 11.

During the reign of Ferdinand the Second, of pious and of moral memory, I had to record on several occasions a foray in the Museo Borbonico. Those *chefs-d'œuvre* of Greek Art, the Venuses, were removed from their pedestals, and shut up in cellars, as being no better than they should be. The Venus Callipyge, especially, was regarded as a very dangerous and improper innamorata. Those objectionable relics of antiquity were removed from the Secret Chamber, which, in fact, had been religiously sealed up, and the social aspects of the country throve wonderfully under such blessed moral influences. The spirit of the great reformer extended even to the Convent of the Villa Reale, whence several suggestive statues were removed. This sense of decency was hereditary, for the Queen-Mother, also of pious and moral memory, had clothed the *dansesuses* of S. Carlo in blue tights, and the mantle of the father has now fallen upon the son, "happily reigning," as the formula has it. His Majesty, I am told, during the last week paid a visit to the Exhibition of Works of Art in the Museo Borbonico, and caused to be removed several pictures, politically and morally offensive. Thus, an 'Interior of the Studio of H.R.H. the Count of Syracuse,' by De Vivo, particularly struck the Royal eye. On one of the pedestals appears a "*statuette*," representing the Reconciliation of Piedmont and Naples—a purely ideal subject, it is unnecessary for me to say, for nothing can be more distant than the realization of so desirable a result. The Count of Syracuse, when he modelled the work of Art, intended to express not what was, but what he felt convinced would be for the best interests of the religious dynasty and of the country. Let us pass to the second picture excluded; it represents the interior of one of the galleries in the Piazza di Pitti, in Florence. Unhappily, that gallery contains many nude figures, masterpieces of Art, which thousands of travellers gaze on yearly without perhaps entertaining any prurient thoughts; but in Naples the standard is high, and the very appearance of evil must be avoided. A third picture excluded is the interior of the studio of Raphael, containing the Fornarina. Such are the pictures which have been ordered out of this year's collection, as I am informed, and such are the motives which are said to have prompted the exclusion. A person of reflection can scarcely help asking, why is not this high moral tone brought to serve on scenes in every street of the capital, in every village of the kingdom? Whilst imaginary nudes are excluded from the gallery of Art, living nudes are permitted at every corner. Every sense is disgusted by the foul exhibitions which are permitted in the streets. There are times without number when a modest woman would needs blush up to her eyes in walking through a capital over whose works of Art so moral a spirit presides; and there are many parts where no woman who has any regard to decency can walk. It appears to me that a really consistent

love of decency had far better attack the real than the ideal "nudes," and sweep away the filth in which the pedestrian is immersed, than shut up a Venus Callipyge or take down the Fornarina of Raphael.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

PUBLIC opinion has conquered the prejudice of the National Gallery officials against the use of gas. The rooms containing the Vernon and Turner pictures at the South Kensington Museum are to be lighted, and the evening public permitted the occasional enjoyment of their own treasures.

In a few days the Master of the Rolls will return to town, and we shall probably then hear something more about the nomination of Mr. Turnbull to abstract, decipher and translate the foreign papers of the reign of Edward the Sixth, Mary, and Elizabeth. The public voice has pronounced against this appointment with a vehemence and unanimity rarely heard from the press. The question is, indeed, not one of religious toleration, but of personal unfitness. No Englishman would expect to hear of the Pope appointing Padre Gavazzi to edit the secret correspondence of the Vatican. Persons who believe that Padre Gavazzi has exchanged an impure for a pure faith, would yet allow that the incidents of his life would render such a nomination on the part of the Pope in the highest degree foolish and weak.

According to the quiet and unostentatious spirit of the times and the nation, a young gentleman became, the other day, a member of Christ Church College, Oxford,—and that new member is heir to the throne of England. There was, as became the event, a little more ceremony, more of outward show of respect from the masters to the scholar, than marks an ordinary matriculation, but a tranquil dignity was its prevailing characteristic. There was no enthusiasm, and even the old Oxford courtesy of wine and gloves, usually given when a Prince was a guest, was thought too demonstrative for the occasion. But there was a respectful welcome, which is more than was accorded to Edward Longshanks, when that un-scholastic Prince would only fain look in at the curious place. The burgesses did not like the armed men who were with him, and fairly shut their gates against the heir of England and Aquitaine. For the honour of having educated another Prince,—Harry of Monmouth, New College and Queen's were long at issue. If this Prince was really a student at either college during the Chancellorship of his paternal uncle, Henry Beaufort, it must have been in the year 1398,—when the illustrious student was only eleven years of age. Tradition is worth something, and it has clung fast to the assurance that Henry was educated at Queen's, in the old buildings of which visitors used to be shown his chamber. It was over the gate-way opposite to St. Edmund's Hall; a portrait of the Prince was in the stained-glass window, and Fuller tells us that, in his days, the room was occupied by his friend Tom Barlow, and that the royal student's picture was there, in brass. If the archives of the College record nothing of his residence, a proud inscription in his little room asserted it strongly enough; for instance: "To record the fact for ever. The Emperor of Britain, the triumphant Lord of France, the Conqueror of his enemies and of himself, Henry the Fifth, of this little chamber once the great inhabitant." Magdalen College found favour with royalty. Thither Edward the Fourth sent his nephew, Edmund Poole. Prince Arthur, the son of Henry the Seventh, was often a visitor, at least, there, as his brother Henry was at Christ Church,—and there Henry, Prince of Wales, son of James the First, frequently resided. When this Prince first took up his residence there, he was accompanied by the King and Queen, who, by way of entertainment, were nearly worried to death by disputations and scholastic gymnastics,—too much even for such a pedantic monarch as James. Since that period Oxford has had many a princely visitor; but the only one we can remember who matriculated was "Gentleman George," then Prince Regent. This occurred in 1814, when Prince Metternich, Blücher, Gneisenau and other celebrities dined with the heads at Christ Church.

The dinner was a joyous affair; and, characteristically enough, it was "after dinner" that the Prince called for the books, and had his name duly entered as a scholar. The guests, too, were not forgotten; and Blücher and Gneisenau were created "Doctors." Old Blücher was puzzled; and the new royal scholar of Christ Church laughed his loudest, as the old German exclaimed, "Well, if I am a Doctor, it is Gneisenau who administers the pills!"

As our advertisement pages bear signal witness, the literary season is setting in with most abounding promise. Last week we noted the chief books in preparation at the houses of Murray, Longmans, and Bentley. In looking over the lists of other firms, we may signalize the following as of interest:—Messrs. Smith & Elder are to give us 'A Visit to the Philippine Isles in 1858-59,' by Sir John Bowring;—'Heathen and Holy Lands,' by Capt. J. P. Briggs;—'Traits of Schleiermacher's Life, from his Correspondence,'—and a Novel, not yet named, by Nathaniel Hawthorne.—Messrs. Hurst & Blackett announce 'The Upper and Lower Amoor: a Narrative of Travel and Adventure,' by Mr. Atkinson;—'The Life and Times of George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham,' by Mrs. Thomson;—'Pictures of Sporting Life and Character,' by Lord William Lennox.—Messrs. Trübner & Co.'s list contains a 'Narrative of Missionary Residence and Travel in Eastern Africa, during the Years 1837-1855,' by J. L. Krapp, Ph.D.—'Reynard the Fox: after the German Version of Goethe,' by Thomas James Arnold, Esq.,—and, uniform with Baron Munchausen, 'Eulenspiegel Redivivus, the Merry Adventures and Rare Conceits of Tyl Owiglass,' edited by K. R. H. Mackenzie.—Mr. Skeet's announcements comprise 'Literary Reminiscences of Thomas Campbell,' by Cyrus Redding;—'Travels in Morocco,' by the late James Richardson;—'My Study Chair, or Memoirs of Men and Books,' by the late D. O. Maddyn, Esq.,—and 'Four Years in Burmah,' by W. H. Marshall.—Messrs. Routledge & Co. promise Mr. W. H. Russell's 'Indian Diary,' and Mr. Pepper's 'Boy's Play-book of Science.'

We have to note the death of Sir Thomas Tassell Grant, a most useful public servant, and a man of very high merit as a practical inventor, at the age of 64. To his genius the public is indebted for the steam-machinery used in the manufacture of biscuit, which effects a saving to the country amounting annually to 30,000*l.*—a new life-buoy, —a feathering paddle-wheel,—the patent fuel which bore his name,—and the apparatus for distilling fresh water from the sea. The last invention is in all respects the most signal and most important. Though broken in health, he stuck to his duties, and literally died in harness. Few men, even among his devoted class, ever deserved better of their country than Sir Thomas Grant.

We regret to hear of the death of Mr. Graves, the well-known printseller of Pall Mall. The print department of the British Museum is deeply indebted to this excellent judge of engravings.

Messrs. Griffin & Co. are preparing for publication a 'Handbook of Contemporary Biography,' on the plan of stating facts, not attempting estimates or venturing on comparisons. This is the true principle in dealing with living men, whose fame may be in contest, even though their influence may be established as a fact. If Messrs. Griffin will severely observe their own principle, they may obtain assistance for their work, and respect for it when done.

Some of our contemporaries announce the preparation of a new edition of 'Tennyson's Poems,' with illustrations. There is a mistake in this announcement. About a year ago Mr. Macleise executed some very beautiful and fanciful designs in illustration of 'The Princess.' These illustrations will be published as a Christmas book. No other pictorial edition of Tennyson is in course of preparation.

In the notice of the British Museum Reading-room Catalogue, in the last number of the *Athenæum*, the Reading-room is spoken of as containing "about sixty thousand volumes" accessible to the frequenters. This was inadvertently said. About sixty thousand is the number of volumes in the Reading-room, but of these the greater number



stand on gallery-shelves not free to the reader. The volumes freely at the reader's hand, and described in the Catalogue, are about twenty thousand. The works in the upper galleries do not consist of works of reference; but of the largest and most miscellaneous collection of journals, magazines, reviews, annuals and almanacs ever yet assembled under one roof. The error is of no importance—but we correct it because it is an error.

We give this note from Mr. Herbert Spencer as an act of justice to a thinker and writer who has suffered many such wrongs as the one he now redresses with his own reluctant hand:—

"Derby, Oct. 16.

"Sir,—In your report of the proceedings of the Astronomical Section of the British Association I find mention of a paper 'On the Inclination of the Planetary Orbits,' by Mr. J. P. Hennessy; in which he stated 'that on consulting a synoptic table of the planetary elements, some law had been obtained for the other elements, but none hitherto for the inclinations of the several orbits.' This premised, Mr. Hennessy said 'he found that a very remarkable relation manifested itself when they (the inclinations of the planetary orbits) were tabulated in reference to the plane of the Sun's equator.' And the fact that in advancing from the outermost to the innermost planets there is a progressive decrease in the angle made by the plane of the planetary orbit and that of the Sun's equator, Mr. Hennessy considers a confirmation of the hypothesis of Laplace. Allow me to refer Mr. Hennessy to a prior statement of this view in an article on 'Recent Astronomy and the Nebular Hypothesis,' published in the *Westminster Review* for July 1858. In that article, along with the currently-assigned evidences of the Nebular Hypothesis, I have included some others which had not, as far as I am aware, been before noticed; and among them (p. 202) is this which Mr. Hennessy has set forth in his paper. I am, &c.,

"HERBERT SPENCER."

Lady Franklin has very wisely determined that the relics of the "Franklin Expedition," brought home by Capt. McClintock, should be exhibited in London, and not at Greenwich. They are on view at the United Service Museum, and comprise a variety of articles, many of a very interesting nature. Those discovered in the boat are, generally speaking, in excellent preservation, showing how little influence the rigours of Arctic winters have upon wood or canvas. The metals are of course much rusted; but the chronometers, dip-circle, and double-frame sextant, are in excellent condition. Among the plate are several spoons and forks, six bearing Franklin's crest; and it is worthy of remark, that the greater portion bear marks of very rough treatment—some being indented, and all more or less bent. One case contains the books found in the boat. The majority are of a religious character. One Bible has many MS. notes, in a remarkable state of preservation. The fly-leaf of a small book, entitled 'Christian Melodies,' has an inscription in a woman's handwriting to G. G.—probably Graham Gore, one of Sir John Franklin's lieutenants, and signed S. M. P. Another case contains a number of knives, lances, &c., obtained by barter from the Esquimaux, most of which have been evidently made by the natives from knives or cutlasses obtained from the ships. In a few days the record found at Point Victory, which is at present in Lady Franklin's possession, will also be exhibited. Altogether, the exhibition is of a deeply interesting though painful nature. We would suggest the desirableness of placing one or more copies of Mr. Arrowsmith's last Arctic map, containing Capt. McClintock's geographical discoveries, on the table near the relics. Thus, visitors would be able to see where the Erebus and Terror were abandoned, and where the relics were found.

The eighth—and, it is said, the last—volume of Mr. Bancroft's 'History of the United States' is nearly ready for the press.

Prof. Mitchell, of Cincinnati, has been appointed to the Directorship of the Dudley Observatory, Albany, U.S. Dr. Brinnow, late Director of the Ann-Arbor Observatory, Michigan, having accepted the position of Associate-Director of the Dudley Observatory, has removed to Albany. Dr. Brinn-

now purposes applying the Olcott Meridian Circle to a new determination of the Stars in Bradley's Catalogue, and to the observation of some of the fainter asteroids.

Cologne celebrated a festival at the beginning of this month, in the inauguration of the new bridge over the Rhine, which was honoured by the presence of the Prince Regent, and favoured by the finest summer weather. The new bridge is an event for the inhabitants of the Rhine; the noble stream has not borne such a yoke since the time of the Romans. From the picturesque point of view, the famous crescent which Cologne presents from the river-side may have suffered a little by the bridge, fine as this is in all its proportions; on the other hand, the prospect has won by the ground being laid open up to the Cathedral, which now presents its whole façade to the traveller on the boat, without being any longer obstructed by little houses and dirty lanes, all of which are to be turned into gardens and pleasure-grounds. The bridge is finished, all but the portico, a model of which, by the architect, Herr Strack, was exhibited on the day of the inauguration. It will consist of two square towers in Gothic style, rising 77 feet over the level of the bridge, or 108 feet over the level of the shore. Each tower will have four little turrets, richly crowned with pinnacles. The entrances to the two parts of the bridge will be of iron, but all in the Gothic style. Between the entrances a pillar of 30 feet high will bear, on the Cologne side, the colossal equestrian statue of the King, and on the Deutz side, that of the Prince Regent. These statues will be 18 feet high, and are to be executed in bronze, in these proportions. So far they will bear a likeness to Rauch's statue of Frederic the Great, at Berlin. The model of the King's statue is by the sculptor Herr Bläser.

The Germans in London intend to celebrate Schiller's centenary birthday. A Committee for the purpose has been formed, which, we understand, has entered into negotiations with the Directors of the Crystal Palace.

Mr. Stuart, who has made an extensive and most important journey into the interior of South Australia, has returned to Adelaide, from Port Augusta, after an absence of six months. His party consisted of two persons besides himself, and they had with them about four pack and four or five saddle horses. Mr. Stuart's first business was to survey and lay off the runs discovered and claimed by him some time ago. After that work was finished, he started with his party on a further exploratory expedition, and the result seems by his reports to have been the discovery of an immense tract of country, exceeding in richness of pasture and abundance of water anything that has yet been met with. The distance traversed was 300 miles beyond the furthest point reached by Mr. Eabbage and Major Warburton, and the country was found to be luxuriant beyond description. The details, of which, however, we do not ourselves guarantee the accuracy, are of exceeding interest. Mr. Stuart, it would appear, started from the Emerald Springs about the beginning of April, and reached lat. 26° S., the northern boundary of the colony, about the middle of May, and during his journey was never a day without water. The country traversed consisted chiefly of immense plains, interspersed with innumerable hillocks from 100 to 150 feet high, from the summits of which gushed springs of pure fresh water, intersecting the plains and discharging themselves into numerous creeks and rivers running in an easterly direction. One of the rivers discovered is reported by Mr. Stuart to be three miles broad in one part of its course. The ranges flanking the plain are chiefly table-topped and about a thousand feet high. Mr. Stuart made a détour occasionally of from 20 to 30 miles on each side of his track, and found the country everywhere of the same beautiful description; and it seemed to be of a similar character as far as the eye could reach beyond the furthest point attained by him. Indeed, he seems to have turned back through surfeit of good country. He thinks there would not be any difficulty whatever in crossing over to the Gulf of Carpentaria, or to any other portion of the north coast. His impression is, that an inland lake or

sea exists to the eastward, which probably discharges its waters into Stokes's Victoria River to the north-west. At any rate, the theory that the centre of New Holland is nothing but a desert may now be exploded. Mr. Stuart has brought back specimens of the grasses, seeds, and minerals of the country, the last of which are said to include some precious stones. A considerable portion of the district traversed is represented by Mr. Stuart as auriferous. We trust all this is true in detail and in substance. But the news is of that exceedingly good kind, about which popular scepticism has framed its adage.

ROYAL COLOSSEUM.—OPEN DAILY.—Eight First-Class Exhibitions and Entertainments. Open, Morning, Twelve till Five; Evening, Seven till half-past Ten.—Admission, 1s.; Children under Ten and Schools, 6d.

Sole Lessee and Manager, Dr. BACHHOFFNER, F.C.S.

## SCIENCE

*Outlines of the Natural History of Europe: the Natural History of the European Seas.* By the late Prof. Edward Forbes. Edited and Continued by Robert Godwin-Austen. (Van Voorst.)

In these exciting times there is so much to interest us upon the surface of the land, that few people inquire as to what is going on under water. The vulgar notion, therefore, of the habits and positions of the submarine population is, that shells and starfishes float, and fishes dart about wherever their vagrant fancies may lead them; that they have no real homes, but are cosmopolitan, and know no oceanic *termini* but the two poles. Such, however, is not the scientific notion, nor the truth. There are provinces and generic areas under water as different as the provinces and countries upon land. Mollusks and most fishes have a "local habitation and a name," discovered by the researches of naturalists like the late Edward Forbes; and such men are the topographers of the ocean, who, in the course of time, may perhaps be able to compose a submarine gazetteer, in which shall be recorded the various provinces, areas, and zones in which the several finny tribes and Testacea permanently reside, and where bold and busy dredgers may always find some of the family at home.

The marine provinces, however, are not rigidly marked out like our politically determined boundaries upon land. There is, therefore, no submarine dispute about any San Juan, no quarrel about the lines of currents. An undulating and yielding line alone defines the province and determines the homes of the several orders and classes of the saline population. There are, too, capital cities below sea—a molluscous London, Paris, and Rome—where the majority of particular testacea are found, and whence they diverge and travel to visit other waters in gradually lessening numbers. As above upon land, so below in the waters, geographical unity seems to be one of the essentials of every generic group. Name any prominent genus of Testacea, such, for instance, as the beautiful and abounding *Mitras*, of which there are about 400 species,—and it is found that these shells have their metropolis, or head-quarters, in the Indo-Pacific Ocean, and that they are distributed in every direction away from that central region, but in decreasing numbers. Typical species of *Mitre*-shells from the Indian Ocean are met with throughout the Red Sea. Numerous other forms of this genus are found on the west coast of Africa and about the Atlantic Islands. As many as eleven species live in the Mediterranean, which are also mostly common to the Atlantic; but this is their present northern limit. They do not occur upon the coasts of Spain and Portugal,—so that their European range is distinctly defined. Not a specimen is to be found on our own coasts. Were that beautiful species,

the *Mitra episcopalis*, to make its appearance, for instance, in the marine diocese of Devon, the astonishment under water would be as great as if a mitred evangelical were to appear upon the adjoining land. Doubtless all the Torbay shells would shy off from the unwelcome stranger, and perhaps one of the poorest but proudest conchological curates in that whole marine diocese would float up to the *Mitra* and dispute the validity of his sailing orders. Possibly the issue might be different if the strange species were the *Mitra papalis*.

Forbes proposed and in part proceeded to discourse on the seaboard of Europe, exclusive of Iceland, extending through four degrees of latitude and six of longitude, occupying three sides of an irregular quadroid. Along such a range of shores, stretching through various climates, from the sunny confines of Africa to the ice-bound cliffs of Nova Zembla and Spitzbergen, we cannot fail to find diversified assemblages of animated existence. The beings who delight in the chilly waters of the Arctic Ocean must be very different from those reveling in the genial seas of the South; whilst the temperate tides that lave our own favoured shores harbour a submarine population intermediate in character between both. Thus in our progress from North to South we pass three regions or belts, exhibiting successive changes in the features of submarine zoology. When, however, we proceed from the Straits of Gibraltar to the easternmost recesses of the Mediterranean, though we pass throughout along the same parallel of latitude, we carry with us the creatures who met us at the marine gates, and entering upon the Black Sea we find that the differences lie mainly in deficiencies.

This extensive range of seas is regarded as comprehending six provinces, since within them can be reckoned so many distinct "centres of creation." The first and northernmost is the Arctic province; the second is the Boreal province, including the seas which wash the shores of Norway, Iceland, the Faroe and the Zetland Isles. The third is the Celtic, in which rank the British seas, the Baltic, and the shores of the continent from Bohusland to the Bay of Biscay. The Lusitanian province includes the Atlantic coasts of the Peninsula; the Mediterranean explains itself by its title, but it includes the Black Sea; while the Caspian is a region now completely isolated. Of these provinces the four first named and the last are considered to be unquestionably distinct centres of creation.

From such a general and broad view of the seas the submarine zoologist proceeds to particulars. He finds that in order to constitute a distinct province it is necessary that one-half the species should be peculiar,—a rule which equally applies to animals and plants. He makes various divisions and subdivisions as specific areas, which include the aforesaid metropolises, specific centres (or centres of creation); generic areas and sub-generic areas. Minute research proves that these divisions are not arbitrary, but natural,—more abiding, though there be no marine military, than the political demarcations of terrestrial kingdoms. An earthly Emperor may go to war for an idea, may obliterate the boundaries of kingdoms at his will, and by the law of the sword apportion whole provinces at his pleasure. But the naturalist will tell him that, like another Canute, he cannot rule the waters. All the might of ten Napoleons could not for one day shift the wavy outline of a marine province. A congress of all the kings of the earth could not turn over the testaceous population of the Mediterranean into the Boreal province. It might humble the proudest prince to reflect that the tiniest shell,

the waste, tangled sea-weed, the contemned periwinkle, the neglected whelk, obey laws which he cannot alter, enjoy liberties which he cannot abridge, and range at their own choice through provinces which he can neither limit nor extend. What is all terrestrial power to an untroubled Trochus! What are all rifled cannons to a free spiral univalve, who can display in his own little house more wonderful convolutions than ever entered the brain of an Armstrong, or elicited the admiration of an Admiralty!

Not only are there definite provinces superficially in these extended seas, but also vertical divisions somewhat corresponding to heights of vegetation on mountains. On land there are no political divisions but the superficial. Conquerors can hold sway over a thousand miles of surface, but cannot rule a foot underneath. Population upon earth is merely superficial; there are no subterranean nations and cities. In the ocean, however, the "innumerable creeping things" have vertical ranges as well as surface provinces. In fact, these exist together, though man is compelled by his limited powers to regard them separately. The influence of depth is everywhere felt in the European seas; for everywhere do we discover creatures, whether animal or vegetable, distributed in successive belts, or regions, from the margin of the high-water mark down to the deepest abysses from which living beings have been extracted. These successive depths are named zones, each of which is inhabited by peculiar types, which are confined to their distinct and destined regions, whilst others are common to two or more zones, and not a few have the hardness to brave all conditions of depth. Nevertheless, so marked is the general aspect (the *facies*) of the inhabitants of any given region of depth, that the sight of a sufficient assemblage of them from some one locality enables the experienced naturalist to decide at once, within certain limits, as to the soundings, and this without the aid of line or plummet.

Of such zones there are in the oceanic portion of the European seas four, which are well marked and distinct. First comes the *Littoral*, or shore zone, equivalent to the tracts lying between tide-marks. This important belt is inhabited by animals and plants capable of enduring periodical exposure to the air, to the glare of light, the glow of heat from the sun, the pelting rains, and the freshwater floods. This littoral belt is divisible into sub-regions which may be traced on rocky shores, when the tide is out, even by inexperienced eyes, forming variously-coloured belts, banding the base of the land. Next to this great shore-band comes the region of sea-weeds, named the *Laminarian* zone, extending from the edge of low-water to a depth varying in different localities, but seldom exceeding fifteen fathoms. Differently tinted sea-weeds mark out this zone also into sub-regions. It harbours a numerous population of creatures peculiar to itself, and is the chosen residence of fishes, mollusks, crustaceans, and soft-bodied animals of all classes, remarkable for the brightness of their colourings and the variegation of their patterns. This zone is ever teeming with life; it is a sort of Chinese empire in the seas; for whenever we look down into the waving forests of broad-leaved tangles, we discern creatures of every possible tint sporting amongst the flaggy foliage, darting from frond to frond, prowling in and out amongst the gnarled roots, or crawling with slimy trails along their polished bronzy expansions.

Below this lies the *Coralline* zone, wherein living plant-like zoophytes rear their graceful feathery branches, the flowers of which are animals rivalling botanical symmetry and

beauty. For some thirty fathoms, commencing at the termination of the zone of sea-weeds, does this region descend, and herein are great assemblages of animals, both vertebrate and invertebrate, while plants are few. A sort of marine Savanna is this, though more abundantly peopled. The last and lowest region is that of the *Deep-sea* corals, and of the large stony zoophytes. Its peculiar creatures are few, yet they give it a marked character, while it is also partly peopled by colonists from the higher zones. The deeper we descend in this region the fewer and the more modified do its inhabitants become,—indicating our approach towards an abyss where life is either wholly wanting or where it exhibits but few traces of its lingering presence. The confines of this zone are undetermined; its deep mysterious wilderness is mostly unexplored. It is an African interior, which awaits some deep-dredging Livingstone to sweep its desert depths, to explore and explain its unsounded mysteries.

Such is a brief outline of submarine geography and floating nationalities. Partly to fill up this outline is the purpose of the little book before us, and of the zealous marine zoologists who have been and are working with dredge and rake on the tideless Mediterranean, the billowy Baltic, and even in Arctic waters. To them the world of waters is a book of inexhaustible wonders. Rock and strand are to them inscribed with living characters. Land-travellers can now no longer make discoveries like theirs. For them there is an entrance into cities of unknown peoples. The dredge, like the Apostolic vision of a sheet let down from heaven, discloses all manner of creatures, clean and unclean. Here are fishes of most strange aspects or of slender elegance, and shells of huge size or tiny perfection. Here are mollusks of exceedingly delicate texture, extraordinary shapes, marvellous organization, and most varied and vivid colouring. Here are soft bodies exhibiting hues of a brilliancy and intensity that outvie the most gorgeous admixtures of a painter's palette. Our rarest and most artificial colours are there the commonest tints, and the very waters glow with vermilion red, intense crimson, pale rose, golden yellow, luscious orange, rich purple, and the deepest and the brightest blues. Vivid greens and dense blacks are ordinary colours, separated or combined, or disposed in endless varieties of elegant patterns. Here, too, are congregated fishes truly beautiful to behold, as the wrasses, gorgeous in their scaly garments. Here are odd gobies and more curious blennies playfully disporting amidst sub-marine groves. Strange serpent-like worms crawl about the weed-roots, while formidable crustaceans prowl about like wild beasts, putting forth claws and feelers suggestive of Inquisition racks and Spanish torture-engines. Here are sponges growing round and reticulated and plump, much like the mosses and lichens of land. Corals, great and small, are forming stony foundations, or branching up in ramose growth. Often thick enough to resemble miniature gardens, they open tortuous paths for the sports of strange organizations. Nor are the great depths unlike the answering heights of Heaven above them, for the seas have stars even mimicking those in the studded skies. Starfishes radiate and almost shine through the waters with their glowing colours. Enough for a lifetime of busy work and un-failing wonder is to be discovered and discerned in a single province and a single zone. The involuntary recluse who should murmur at his loneliness upon some unpeopled shore, might be directed to the waters, and therein, like Sars, the Norwegian clergyman, who was located in one of the barest and bleakest



provinces of Norway, he might introduce himself to regions calling for untiring industry, and capable of affording unending instruction and entertainment. Like Sars, too, instead of living morosely and dying unknown, he might make for himself a name amongst naturalists, which should endure as long as the waves roll on, and animated life disports itself beneath them.

Not only professed naturalists, but also ordinary men and grave moralists, may derive instruction from these phenomena of marine life. Socialists may learn a lesson here—that not even in the rolling seas is there an equality of ranks and a level of stations. Even in these free and untrammelled depths there are orders and grades in saline society. Republicans may here learn that they have no marine model, and democrats that not a single shell through all the submarine states has ever been known to be used as a ballot-box. Landlords will find here no justification for covetous oppression—no raising of water-rents upon a poor testaceous tenantry. Conservatives may discover that submarine Conservatism consists not merely in keeping within one's own province, but also in permitting others to enjoy theirs without rebuke or taxation. Lawyers addicted to sharp practice may behold their types in the predacious cuttle-fish, who fixing upon innocent creatures, eat them out of shell and home, and darken the surrounding waters with their ink-bags when pursued by impoverished clients and maddened victims. In fact, there is no class or condition of men which may not find prototypes or derive instruction from these discoveries of naturalists. Even emperors and princes might grow wiser by looking into the laws of the marine life below them as they stand in hours of relaxation upon recreative shores. Upon very high authority the sluggard has been directed to the ant as a teacher: we might extend the lesson, and send emperors to the provinces and zones of submarine zoology. Is there no warning for the present and the future there? Are the shell-inhabitants adding plates to their vessels to resist an unwilling and unknown foe? Are fishes preparing to fight, and crustaceans to claw their own species? Are bivalves going to battle for additional provinces? Are echini sticking out all their spines to pierce their neighbours and allies? Are starfishes about to twine their five-fold fingers in murderous grasp? No, peace and contentment prevail below, while doubt and dread, and anticipation of evil are rife above. If ever that stupendous crime should be perpetrated among mankind—the initiation of naval war between the two great Western powers—we may then envy the undisturbed condition of those sub-marine societies underneath our mighty ships as they pour out murderous broadsides,—underneath the waters reddening for long reaches with human blood. At such a time we may imagine some sapient hortatory bivalve summoning a floating audience of gaping brethren around him in the tranquil depths, and addressing them somewhat in this strain:—"Brother bivalves!—I have taken this opportunity of pointing out to you the madness and folly of those creatures whom some call our superiors. What a conflict they are now engaged in you can conceive from the disturbance of the waters above and around us, and the continual down-dropping of fragments of wrecks and cannon-balls. I know that many of you have entertained ambitious thoughts of floating up to higher stations. Mark the folly of ambition! Be content with your watery station wherever you may be placed. These depths are now the only abodes of contentment, of wisdom, and

peace. Brother bivalves! take warning by the battling bipeds. Let them boast of their superior gifts as they may, we, their alleged inferiors, better fulfil the objects of existence. They have more light from the sun, but less love than we have. The madness of mutual murder has seized them, and—but here comes the body of a Frenchman! in another minute he will have sunk to the coralline zone! Well, at least, there will be food for fishes, and foundations for corals; and you, little timid bivalves, can find a safe home in his skull, creeping in through the eye-sockets;—but here comes another body! Brother bivalves, gape no longer; shut your shells and roll away, or we shall all be crushed under the descending timbers and wrecks and cannon-balls, and battered hulks and mangled bodies. Shut shells at once, I say, and roll home!"

Naturalists will be thankful for this little volume, and to Mr. Godwin-Austen for his careful continuation of observations quite in the spirit of Edward Forbes, whom we might justly name the Nelson of naturalists. Had his life been spared, we should, in all probability, have enjoyed the benefits of great and glorious conquests, which he would have achieved in the sub-marine provinces. His Trafalgar would have been a Trochus—his Copenhagen an Anemone. But other active dredgers are alive and observant. "Speed the plough" is the farmer's toast, "Speed the dredge" is ours.

This book sadly wants an Index, or analytical table of contents. As it is, we have missed at least fifty facts, for which we have again dredged in vain through all the provinces and zones of pagination. Some facts, we fear, have sunk down to the zone of deep-sea corals, and are irrecoverably lost to us. With an Index and a few illustrations it would be much more available and generally acceptable.

#### SOCIETIES.

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—Sept. 5.—Dr. J. E. Gray, President, in the chair.—The President exhibited, on behalf of Dr. Power, a number of Coleoptera, found by him in various places in the south of England during the present season, amongst them were the following species:—*Anchomenus verutus*, *A. palidus*, *Helophorus intermedius*, *Polystichus fasciatus*, *Trechus longicornis*, *Odocantha melanura*, *Acrognathus mandibularis*, *Deleaster dichrous*, and *Ancylophorus glaberrimus*, this last species being an addition to the British list.—Mr. Stevens exhibited a portion of a collection of Coleoptera and Lepidoptera, made by Mr. Trimins, in South Africa; and some fine Longicorn beetles, sent from Sierra Leone by Mr. Foxcroft.—Mr. McLachlan exhibited a specimen of *Hadena peregrina*, which he had lately taken in the Isle of Wight, also *Phibalapteryx gemmaria*, and *Eupacilia flavicollis*, from the same locality.—Dr. Knaggs exhibited a number of rare Lepidoptera, including specimens of *Clostera anachoreta*, hitherto considered as a doubtful British species, but which he had reared from larvae in the south of England; he also exhibited the living larvae of *Acidalia strigellata*, feeding on *Polygonum aviculare*.—Mr. Janson exhibited a fine nondescript species of *Adelops*, one of the blind cavern beetles, found by M. Jacquelin Duval in caves in the Pyrenees.—Mr. Tegetmeir detailed some observations he had lately made proving that bees resort to a chalybeate spring in preference to those which are not impregnated with iron.—Mr. Stevens stated that *Locustia migratoria* had been unusually common this season in the neighbourhood of Brighton, and exhibited a living example which he had caught there a few days previous to the meeting.—R. W. Fereday, Esq. was elected a Member of the Society.

Oct. 3.—Dr. J. E. Gray, President, in the chair.—The Baron de Chaudoir was elected a Member

of the Society.—Mr. Stevens exhibited a male example of *Pieris daphidia*, lately captured on the Kentish coast.—Mr. Bond exhibited some fine Lepidoptera, from the Isle of Wight, including *Lophygma cizyna*, *Heliothis armigera*, *Leucania extranea*, and *Noctua flammatra*: the two last-mentioned species being new to the British list of Noctuidæ. He also exhibited a specimen of *Aspilates saccharia*, taken in Devonshire by Mr. Matthews, and *Acidalia rubricaria*, taken by Mr. Lynch in Kent.—Mr. Frederick Smith exhibited a specimen of *Aspilates saccharia*, taken on Banstead Downs in August last.—Mr. Janson exhibited a specimen of *Enus hirtus*, taken at Southend by Mr. Heyward; and an example of *Anchomenus elongatus*, captured at Southwold by Mr. Brewer. This insect has not previously been captured in Britain; the specimen exhibited belongs to the collection of Mr. Jeakes.—Mr. Stainton exhibited *Pterophorus brachydactylus*, taken in Cumberland by Mr. J. B. Hodgkinson, and a drawing of a new species of Lithocolletis, with the cocoon of the insect received from Herr Hoffmann, of Ratisbon, who discovered the larvae mining the underside of the leaves of *Helianthemum vulgare*.—Dr. Allchin exhibited a specimen of *Lycena betica*, captured near Brighton on the 7th of August last, being the first specimen of this butterfly recorded to have been captured in England, although abundant in many parts of Europe. He also exhibited *Leucania extranea*, found at Lewes on the 9th ult.—Mr. Gorham exhibited some rare species of Coleoptera, lately taken in Kent.—Mr. Trimins exhibited a further portion of the entomological collection made by him in Southern Africa.—Mr. Moore exhibited the larvae of the Eria moth of Bengal (*Saturnia Ricini*) and of the hybrid between it and the Eria of China (*S. Cynthia*), reared from eggs received from M. Guérin Menerville. The larvae had been fed on the castor-oil plant (*Ricinus communis*).—Dr. Knaggs exhibited some specimens of a species of *Ino*, from Scotland, which he considered would prove distinct from any described species.—The Secretary read some letters 'On the Injuries inflicted on the Coffee Plantations at Mercara, Madras, by a species of Coccus,' some of which he exhibited.—Mr. Westwood read a paper, by Mr. Wann, 'On the Extraordinary Tenacity of Life possessed by the Larvæ of the Common Gnat.'—Mr. Smith read a paper, by Mr. S. Stone, 'On the Economy of *Sitaris humeralis*.'—Part III. of the 4th volume of the Society's Transactions was announced as published.

ASTRONOMICAL.—July 8.—Rev. R. Main, President, in the chair.—R. L. J. Ellery, Esq., Superintendent of the Astronomical Observatory, Williamstown, Victoria, was duly elected a Fellow of the Society.—'Places of Donati's Comet, from Observations made at the Armagh Observatory, by N. M.N. Edmondson, Assistant Astronomer.—'Results of the Observations of Small Planets, made at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, in the month of June, 1859,' by the Astronomer Royal.—Letter to the President from M. le Comte G. de Pontécoulant, accompanying a Memoir containing 'Observations on the New Terms which Mr. Adams has proposed to introduce into the Expression of the Coefficient of the Secular Equation of the Moon.'—'Sur les Réfractions Anormales dans les Éclipses de Soleil et la Détermination des Longitudes par les Éclipses,' by M. Liais.—'Note on the Triplidity of  $\nu$  Scorpii,' by Capt. Jacob.—'Micrometrical Measures of the Triple Star  $\nu$  Scorpii,' by Capt. Noble.—'Note on the Occultation of Saturn, May 8, 1859,' by G. F. Pollock, Esq.—Mr. Alvan Clark's new Micrometer for measuring large Distances.

MEETING FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.  
WED. British Meteorological, 7.—Council.

#### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—Under the Management of Miss Louisa Fyne and Mr. W. Harrison.—Continuous Success of the English version of Meyerbeer's celebrated Opera.—The Management of the Royal English Opera have the satisfaction of announcing its repetition every evening until further notice, honoured as it is by increasing public favour.



MONDAY, Oct. 24th, and during the Week, DINORAH. Misses Pilling, Thirlwall, and Miss Louise Pyne; Messrs. Santley, H. Corri, St. Albans, and W. Harrison. Conductor, Alfred Mellon. Divertissement. Madlle. Rosina Lequin, Pasquale, Pierson, Clara Morgan, and Mona Vandra. Doors open at Half-past Seven, commence at Eight. Stage Manager, Edward Stirling. Acting Manager, Edward Murray.  
Stalls, 7s.; Private Boxes, 3s. 6d.; 3s. 3s.; 2s. 12s. 6d.; 1s. 5s.; 1s. 1s.; Dress Circles, 5s.; Amphitheatre Stalls, 3s.; Pit, 2s. 6d.; Amphitheatre, 1s.

**SADLER'S WELLS.**—It is now years since a new drama was produced at this house, nor was it expected that an adaptation from the French by Mr. Tom Taylor would achieve the honour so long in abeyance. The fact, however, is so, and M. Victor Hugo's 'Le Roi s'amuse' and M. Verdi's opera of 'Rigoletto' form the basis of the new production. The new piece is written in blank verse, for the style of which Mr. Taylor merits much credit. It is easy and flowing, without inversions, and thus gives natural and conversational expression to the topics of the dialogue. Some of those topics, however, are of most exceptional sort, and Mr. Taylor has put into the mouth of his jester not a few disgusting sentiments, which will have a mischievous effect on the future popularity of the play. The title of this work is 'The Fool's Revenge'; the action is laid in the fifteenth century, and under the rule of *Galeotto Manfredi*, the Duke of Faenza. The Jester is called *Bertuccio*, who assumes the calling of court-fool, that he may have the opportunity of avenging himself on *Guido Malatesta*, an old soldier, for having formerly abducted his wife; and therefore urges on the Duke Manfredi to run away with *Ginevra*, Malatesta's consort, that, in *fago-fashion*, he may be "even with him." Those who are acquainted with the story know, that the mistaken and malicious fool thus assists in the violent carrying off of his own daughter, whom he had purposely kept in seclusion from the world, and who had sought refuge in Lady *Ginevra's* protection. *Fiordelisa* (Miss Heath) is, however, proof against the Prince's temptations, and even at the banquet, in which she is forced to participate, refuses to drink of the wine; by which abstinence her life is saved, while the Duke dies of the poison with which his jealous wife, at the prompting of Bertuccio, had medicated the bottle. This, it will be seen, is Mr. Taylor's version of the story, who is thus enabled to make *Fiordelisa* happy with *Scarfino dell' Aquila*, a poet and improvisatore (Mr. F. Robinson), who had interested himself in her behalf, and procured her the asylum. The force of the play is, however, intended to lie in the alternate idiotic and parental scenes in which Bertuccio's wrongs, revenge and sufferings are portrayed. In the former, Mr. Phelps was totally out of his element—in the latter, he was pathetic as usual. The last scene, also, gives him scope for some fine tragic acting, of which he fully availed himself. The management have bestowed on the piece most laudable care, and some beautiful Italian scenery by Mr. C. S. James added much to the general effect. The house was crowded, and the new drama successful.

**OLYMPIC.**—On Monday a new piece was produced at this theatre, which proved to be an adaptation of an old stock-drama, none other, indeed, than M. Scribe's 'Le Mariage sous l'Empire.' Mr. J. Madison Morton has christened it 'A Husband to Order,' and produced a series of scenes that occupy the leading members of the company well enough. He has made no attempt to Anglicise the story, so that the plot takes place during the First Empire; and the *Baron de Beaupré* (Mr. H. Wigan) acts under the pressure of Napoleon, who will not license the returned refugee's restoration to his forfeited estates unless he consents to the marriage of his heiress and niece, *Josephine* (Miss Wyndham) with *Colonel Pierre Marceau* (Mr. George Vining), who has risen from the ranks by his valour. It happens, however, that when the dashing young Colonel appears, the lady surrenders her aristocratic notions, and willingly goes to the altar. Unfortunately, the relatives of her new husband are not equally agreeable. His cousins, *M. Philippeau* (Mr. G. Cooke), and his chatty rustic wife, (Mrs. Emden), are altogether too rude for her taste, and cause her to give mortal offence to her new bridegroom, who at once quits her for his

regiment. Two years are required to set these misunderstandings to rights, when the Colonel returns, disguised as his own brother, with a feigned report of his death, and learns from his wife that he had been wrongfully hasty in departing without explanation. The piece was well received.

**STANDARD.**—Mr. John Proctor, the American actor, has afforded us further opportunity of judging of his quality by the performance of two legitimate characters, *Damon* and *Macbeth*. In the former he was successful; and, with his fine figure and passionate declamation, realized the classic attributes of the part. His *Macbeth* was not equal, though good. The reading was correct, the bearing manly, and the situations sometimes even powerfully interpreted; but there was a jauntiness in the article of emphasis, which requires elocutionary practice under English tuition to remedy. It is, in fact, an American vice of delivery; but Mr. Proctor may get rid of it.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—The Aberdeen Festival—in inauguration of the Music-Hall there—is over. The principal work selected for performance was 'St. Paul':—the singers were Mr. and Mrs. Weiss, Miss Dolby, and Mr. Lockey (called on suddenly to sing for Mr. Sims Reeves). Depending on a report from the *Aberdeen Herald*, we may state that 'St. Paul' did not attract a great audience,—neither did it at Bradford. The Germans, we know, prefer the Oratorio to 'Elijah,'—but, we also know, they prefer Bach to Handel. —At the miscellaneous concert, with the above singers, Miss Arabella Goddard and M. Sainton appeared; both with the utmost success.

It is announced that the "Vocal Association" is to be extended by the addition of instrumental amateurs, for "the practice of overtures, symphonies, cantatas, masses, anthems," &c. This, therefore, may be the time in which to offer a practical remark or two on a subject which we have watched with some attention. So far as amateur co-operation increases the desire for experiment or the power of appreciation, it is, indeed, a thing to be fostered; especially in a cold climate like this of our England. But, in some respects, it works with a contrary tendency. Let us suggest how. The instrumental music of our time is beyond the reach of the average amateur, since the mechanical difficulties thereof require a steady devotion of labour which is not so much improbable as impossible. To become a competent player on an instrument demands the study of years. To an ear of anything like nicety a slovenly or incomplete execution becomes torture. The amateurs, then, are naturally driven back on that which they "get through" the least incompletely;—and so end, if they did not begin, in a narrow repertory.—There is another difficulty,—felt, we have been assured, by no body more acutely than the "Vocal Association." Those very amateurs who most delight in performance are the most capricious in "practice." "They will not come to rehearsal," is the cry of nineteen out of twenty conductors,—dear though be the delight of exhibition on field-days, and of being told by a smiling audience that their performance is "nearly as good as a Philharmonic one." There is hence a danger of mediocrity and meagreness being excused and accepted,—of the standard of taste being lowered, not raised,—of a bustle of vanity being kept up, in which no clear and discriminating love of art has time to flourish. What is to be desired is—improvement in our performances—enlargement in our knowledge. The more private entertainment the better; but when that which is not good in private begins to take the place of what is better in public, courtesy must stop and criticism begin. For obvious reasons, it is best to put forward considerations like these at a juncture when there is little or nothing to report on,—neither is there need for the moment to illustrate by instances. But, since the time may come when, as a lesser evil than the vitiation of Art, examples may be necessary, the caution and its consequences may, in all sincere regard, be now offered.

Yet another choir of part-singers, conducted by Mr. James Robinson, gave its third concert at *Exeter Hall*, on Wednesday evening.

Mr. Hullah announces that during the coming series of his concerts at St. Martin's Hall, he will produce the Cecilian Mass of M. Gounod; and a new oratorio, 'John the Baptist,' by Herr Hager, of Vienna.

Signor Morini, a new tenor, not of Italian origin, we believe,—appeared the other night with Mesdames Penco and Albani, in 'Il Giuramento,' at Paris, with some success.—M. Lucien Bourgeois, a new light tenor, has made a fairly good impression at the *Théâtre Lyrique*.

*Galignani's Messenger* states that Madame Gristi's first appearance at Madrid has been disastrous. If it is her humour to hazard herself before new audiences when she can no longer control her resources, (on fortunate nights, still how rich!) the blame is not with a strange public if she be disrespectfully treated; but the want of self-respect is painful.

M. Julien, who has been in Paris for many months past, is engaged, we read, on a literary work,—his 'Musical Life and Times in England.'

The death of the Earl of Westmoreland, aged 75, which the journals of Tuesday announced, demands a word of notice here. To discuss the qualities of the deceased nobleman as an amateur, with whose Masses and operas the English and German lovers of music have been made acquainted, would not, at the moment, be gracious: nor is it needed. That Lord Westmoreland meant well by Music there can be no question. Neither time nor trouble was spared by him in its cause. His loss will be felt in his accustomed haunts, and his kindly temper be commemorated even by those who differed from his views, and the form of patronage they took, as widely as ourselves.

#### MISCELLANEA

**Mudie's Library.**—We quote the following notes on this great Lending Library from Mr. Mudie's Circular:—"In January, 1858, Mr. Mudie advertised his intention to increase the supply of books to his library for that and the following year to 100,000 volumes per annum. That intention has been fulfilled, more than 200,000 volumes having been added during the past and present seasons. The following classified list of works, placed in circulation since January, 1858, may be regarded with interest, as it indicates, to some extent, the relative circulation of works of various classes in our current literature:—History and Biography, 56,472 volumes; Travel and Adventure, 25,552; Fiction, 87,780; Miscellaneous, including Works of Science and Religion, and the principal Reviews, 46,250; total, 216,054. The present rate of increase exceeds 120,000 volumes per annum, consisting chiefly of works of permanent interest and value."

**Submarine Boat.**—Yesterday afternoon an interesting experiment took place at New Castle, Delaware, with a submarine salvage boat, invented by Mr. Villeroi, who descends to the bottom of the river without any arrangement for receiving a supply of fresh air from above, the boat being intended to supply itself with the quantity of air needed while under water, enabling it to remain submerged for any length of time required. As singular as this may seem, the experiment yesterday showed that it was perfectly practicable, for eight men went down in the boat, and remained there an hour and three-quarters without any communication from above. The mode of generating air to supply the boat is yet a secret, but it is believed to be by some chemical arrangement. The boat is made of boiler iron, and is perfectly round, and shaped somewhat like a fish. It is 35 feet long, 44 inches in diameter, and propelled by a screw 3 feet in diameter. It has two rows of bull's-eyes on the top, for the purpose of giving light to the interior. On each side, near the bow or head, are placed pieces of iron about 18 inches square, which are moved like the fins of a fish, and are intended to direct the boat up or down when under the water.—*Philadelphia Ledger*.

August 23.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—L.—E. T. S.—J. L. S.—W. M. L.—received.

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